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# **Examining Options and Models for Harmonization of End Use/r Control Systems**

**Informal Consultative Meeting**

**9 July 2015**

**UN Institute for Disarmament Research**

## Background

- Diversion of authorized conventional arms transfers, including small arms, poses a persistent problem for security at global, regional and national levels, and lies at the heart of illicit arms proliferation.
- End use/r controls, including documentations, are commonly recognized by practitioners as an effective mechanism to combat arms diversion.
- Evidence from diversion cases, however, suggests that differences in the requirements and the use of end use/r documentation, as well as lack of common understanding of definitions and information to be shared among relevant stakeholders pose significant challenges to the effective implementation of the control system to prevent diversion.

## Background

- While there are various efforts undertaken to harmonize end use/r control system to address the problem of diversion, the shared understanding as well as aligned practices and procedures established through such harmonization processes do not extend beyond the existing export control regimes, such as those established by the Wassenaar Arrangement, OSCE and the EU.
- Effective prevention of arms diversion requires a more comprehensive and inclusive approach to examine current procedures and practices of end use/r controls globally, and to better understand existing challenges and opportunities to strengthen controls while facilitating trade. This requires consultations with those states that do not participate in existing export control regimes, as well as other key stakeholders such as the industry.



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## Long Term Goal

**To improve national end use/r control systems in order to prevent the diversion of arms to unauthorized/unintended end users and/or end uses.**



## Project Objective

**To examine the feasibility of harmonization in practices and procedures of end use/r control, in order to offer options for states to have a meaningful dialogue on potential areas for cooperation, shared understandings and possible alignment of measures to strengthen end use/r control systems.**



## Hypothesis

**Cooperation and alignment in common practices and procedures in end use/r control systems will enhance the ability of relevant national stakeholders to more effectively identify and mitigate risk of arms diversion while facilitating legal trade.**



## Added Value of the Project

- Provide an analysis of key areas of national end use/r control systems that could be aligned and/or subject to enhanced cooperation at the national, regional and/or global levels;
- Offer new ideas, avenues and potential areas for states to address challenges to and opportunities for cooperation towards alignment of common practices and procedures of end use/r control;
- Targeted engagement with those states that are not participating in the existing export control regimes, as well as the industry, to collect relevant information on their experiences, challenges and perspectives, in order to promote shared understanding and cooperation in strengthening end use/r controls to prevent diversion and;
- Identify possible approaches and forums to further the discussion on cooperation and shared understanding of end use/r control at the regional and global levels.



## Desired Engagement with Industry

- **Sharing of perspectives, experiences/lessons on end use/r controls**
- **Possible challenges and opportunities faced in relation to end use/r control**
- **What would a desirable end use/r control model look like?**
- **What are feasible options to move towards the desired model?**
- **Sharing of ideas for enhanced cooperation with national authorities**



## Expected Outputs

- Informal Expert Meeting: First Meeting – April 2015, Vienna
- Meeting Summary: June 2015
- Global Survey: June – September 2015
- Industry Consultations: July 2015
- Presentation of preliminary findings: October 2015
- Comprehensive Study: November 2015



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