



United Nations Open-Ended Working Group on Conventional Ammunition
Second Substantive Session, 15 – 19 August 2022

Agenda item 5f: Elaboration of a set of political commitments as a new global framework that will address existing gaps in through-life ammunition management, including international cooperation and assistance

Exchange among Member States on set D of guiding questions

Geneva, 17 August 2022
Statement by Switzerland

Mr. Chair,

In response to the guiding questions related to security considerations, I would refer to our statement on this topic at the first substantive session and add the following two elements:

First, we underline the essential role of national export control authorities in addressing diversion. On the one hand, they are critical to assess diversion risks during the pre-transfer phase. For them to undertake such assessments effectively, they need adequate information. In this regard, we underline the importance of inter-agency information exchange at the national level, in line with national legal systems. In Switzerland, for example, offices from various ministries, but also Embassies abroad usually contribute to export licencing processes.

On the other hand, export control authorities are also essential to help cross-reference different documents and different pieces of information needed to identify the point of diversion. In this regard, we stress the importance of sound records by export control authorities of the information they process for export or re-export applications, for example the information about the sender and the intended end recipient of a transfer.

Second, the transfer licencing process assesses, among others, the risk that the exported ammunition could be diverted during and after it reaches its intended end recipient. As an effective means to help reduce diversion risks, Switzerland believes that States should consider rejecting an export application, where there is a high risk of diversion associated with the exported good.

I thank you.