

Eighth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects
New York, 27 June 1 July 2022

UN CASA (Coordinating Action on Small Arms) statement
Wednesday, 29 June 2022

Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

I am very pleased to be present at the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre of the UN Office of Counter Terrorism (UNCCT/UNOCT) is honoured to represent **UN Coordinating Action on Small Arms, or UN CASA and deliver the statement on its behalf.**

My office is an active partner of UN CASA and committed to addressing terrorism and organized crime nexus, especially with regards to illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons and their supply to terrorists.

The multi-faceted and diverse issues of illicit small arms not only pertain to the through-life management of small arms and light weapons but also call for different approaches, depending on:

- those who misuse SALW, such as perpetrators;
- those who are negatively affected, such as susceptible groups;
- the types of socio-economic impacts that are caused, such as detrimental consequences; and
- the context, such as different settings or policy frameworks.

The United Nations is increasingly called upon to jointly respond to all these dimensions associated with the misuse and illicit circulation of arms and ammunition,

the guiding principle on SALW issues. Increased emphasis on national ownership will help identify specific needs and gaps at the national level; support country-level programming and subsequent implementation of development-centered and gender-responsive small arms programmes; and facilitate the active engagement of UN Country Teams with States' national authorities. On a pilot basis, a series of consultations has been initiated in a few UN Country Teams and national authorities.

