Links between gender, disarmament, and the arms trade

Promoting a Robust Human Security Agenda
## Highlighting a multi-faceted human security approach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disarmament</th>
<th>Women, Peace &amp; Security</th>
<th>Civilian Protection</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conventional weapons control</td>
<td>Women’s participation</td>
<td>Full implementation of the R2P norm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arms trade (ATT process)</td>
<td>Security Sector Reform (SSR)</td>
<td>Promotion of more transparency for findings of threat of atrocity crimes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disarmament machinery</td>
<td>Ending impunity for gender-based violence and sexual violence in armed conflict</td>
<td>Development and promotion of a United Nations Peacekeeping Service (UNEPS)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Incorporating a Gender Lens
Women as ‘Agents of Change’

- Cross-cutting issues of gender equality and disarmament priorities
- Victimization v participation
- New constituencies for Demobilization, Disarmament and Reintegration programs (DDR)
- Women in disarmament policy
- Moving away from singular-focused, militarized notions of security to a multi-faceted approach
Curbing the Illicit Arms Trade and the Current ATT Process

- The role of illicit arms in fueling human rights abuses (including the most egregious of atrocity crimes), criminality, and terrorism
  - Arms proliferation, armed conflict, atrocity crimes and other abuses of human rights
  - Appropriate levels of confidence in the security sector
  - Particular emphasis on:
    - Significance of diversion issues
    - Implementation capacity
## UNPoA and the Arms Trade

- **UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate of the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commitments under the PoA</th>
<th>Weaknesses of the PoA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adequate laws, regulations, and administrative procedures for import, export, transfer, and retransfer</td>
<td>No benchmarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Licensing system for export and import</td>
<td>No formal monitoring system</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measures for international transfer</td>
<td>Limited scope (only SALWs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminalization of illegal trade</td>
<td>Limited implementation capacity</td>
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<tr>
<td>International measures for transfers</td>
<td>Greater public awareness needed</td>
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</table>
Recommendations for a gender-balanced approach to conventional arms disarmament and curbing the illicit arms trade

- Increase links between disarmament and gender in all UN fora
  - UNGA First Committee - *clear, discrete discussions*
  - Conference on Disarmament - *break stalemate and pursue working groups*
  - Disarmament Commission - *set agenda for First Committee*
  - Commission on the Status of Women
  - Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

- ATT and PoA as instruments of conventional disarmament that should integrate the gender lens
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For more information...

• Katherine Prizeman, katherine@globalactionpw.org

• Reaching Critical Will, www.reachingcriticalwill.org

• UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, www.un.org/disarmament/

• UN-Women, www.unwomen.org/


• PeaceWomen, www.peacewomen.org

• UN Programme of Action on SALWs http://www.poa-iss.org