



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**United Nations Security Council Arria-Formula Meeting on  
Small Arms Control and Weapons Management in UN Sanctions Regimes  
4 April 2025**

Greece's Statement delivered  
by H.E. Ambassador Evangelos Sekeris  
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Thank you, Mr. Chair,

I would like to start by congratulating Sierra Leone for convening this very timely debate on Small Arms Control and Weapons Management in UN Sanctions Regimes and also thank the co-sponsored mission of Algeria, Guyana and Somalia. I would also like to particularly thank the distinguished briefers for their very informative presentations.

To begin with, Greece is highly concerned by the continuous threat posed to international peace and security, by the diversion, illicit trade and unauthorized use of small arms and light weapons and their related ammunition, particularly in conflict zones under United Nations (UN) Sanctions.

In this vein, my country considers the UN Programme of Action as the universal framework to address the threat posed by illicit SALW and supports its full and effective implementation at national, regional, and global levels.

Greece is committed to the implementation of the PoA and has undertaken the appropriate actions through annual reporting and provision of additional data on arms transactions.

My country wishes to acknowledge and welcome the successful outcome of the 4th Review Conference on UN Program of Action on SALW and calls for the implementation of the Action Plan until 2030.

Mr. Chair,

Recently, we adopted the Pact for the Future, committing to further enhancing collective efforts to tackle the root causes of insecurity driven by armed groups. Action 18 and action 26 are a standing proof of this.

Greece calls upon all Member States of the organization to proceed with the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Pact for the Future, focusing in 4 areas, as they are also reflected in your concept note:

Firstly, we cannot stress more the importance to strengthening the enforcement of embargoes, as an effective tool to guarantee the creation of conditions conducive to political dialogue and peaceful settlement of disputes.

To this end, it is necessary that the Council ensures the implementation of its own Resolutions that establish sanction regimes, primarily through ensuring accountability for violators and effective monitoring and reporting mechanisms.

Secondly, we support all initiatives and mechanisms that are aiming to counter illicit arms flows. Among them, my country supports the extensive framework of the EU on arms transfers and hopes that soon an internationally recognized arms and ammunition management validation system (AAMVS) will be established to further support the implementation of the new Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management.

In the same spirit, Greece is actively engaged in the Operation “EUNAVFOR MED IRINI”, which is operating off the coast of Libya, enforcing the relevant arms embargo under UNSCR 2733.

Moreover, we wish to underline the importance of the EU Strategy against illicit firearms, small arms and light weapons and their ammunition of 2021.

On a regional level, we commend the valuable work of the South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearing House for the Control on SALW (SEESAC), and we reiterate our support for the implementation of the Roadmap for a sustainable solution to arms control in the Western Balkans.

Thirdly, the role of the Office for Rule of Law and Security Institutions, and especially the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration component, can be crucial, in order to ensure that disarmament and weapons management accompany sanctions relief or conflict resolution efforts.

An effective way to accomplish this goal, is the inclusion of DDR sections to all Resolutions on mandate renewals and sanction regimes.

Also, we call for the further inclusion of DDR actions in the work of sanction committees and peace operations.

Lastly, the role of regional organizations can be crucial, in order to support arms control.

Let me stress Mr. Chair, that we fully support the African Union’ initiative silencing the guns” as an indispensable tool for sharing information, enforcing embargos, and building the capacity of affected states to combat illicit arms trafficking.

To conclude, Mr. Chair, let me reiterate Greece’s commitment to work as an elected Member of the Security Council towards the strengthening of the unity and efficiency of the Council on ensuring the effective control and management of SALW.

I thank you