



**ALGERIA**

**الجزائر**

Permanent Mission of Algeria  
to the United Nations  
New York

بعثة الجزائر الدائمة  
لدى الأمم المتحدة  
نيويورك

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First Committee Thematic discussion**

**Cluster 3: Conventional Weapons**

Statement of Mr. Nazim Khaldi,

First Secretary

New York, 20 October 2022

**Mr. Chairman,**

The illicit trade of small arms and light weapons continues to be a serious threat to peace, security and stability in many regions around the world, particularly in Africa.

In facing this global challenge, Algeria has continuously supported and studly advanced all concerted efforts at the national, regional and global levels aiming at preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, including preventing and combating the diversion and the illicit international transfer of SALW to all unauthorized recipients.

This steadfast endeavor stems from Algeria's unique experience in fighting against the scourge of terrorism, but also in light of the multiple security challenges evolving around its geographical borders.

I seize the opportunity of our discussion to reaffirm Algeria's position with regard to conventional weapons as follows:

First: Algeria remains fully committed to the UN-PoA on SALW and the International Tracing Instrument and continuous to advocate for their full implementation in a balanced and comprehensive manner.

In this context, Algeria welcomes the consensual adoption of the outcome document of the 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial meeting of States to consider the implementation of the UN-PoA on SALW, and further welcomes its decision to establish a standing dedicated fellowship training programme on SALW.

In this spirit, Algeria looks forward to the convening of the Fourth Review Conference of the UN-POA in SALW, in 2024, and reiterates its readiness to work constrictively with the Member States to undertake a comprehensive review of the UN-PoA and further advance its balanced implementation.

Second: Algeria takes note with satisfaction of the Secretary-General report A/77/77, on “The illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects and assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in SALW and collecting them”, to which my country has submitted its national contribution to further enhance the UN-PoA on SALW and the ITI.

Third: At the regional level, Algeria is working tirelessly to implement the 2011 African union strategy on the control of illicit proliferation, circulation and trafficking of SALW and remains fully engaged in the fulfillment of the African Union initiative on Silencing the Guns in Africa.

Fourth: Algeria is deeply involved in consolidating stability and security beyond its borders, working closely together with other neighboring countries, including from the Sahel region, to strengthen security cooperation through technical assistance programs, training of the security personnel and customs services, all along intended to help these countries develop their technical and operational capacities on the ground.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Reaffirming its historic commitment to international humanitarian law and its development, Algeria, continuous to fulfil its obligations under the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) and its annexed Protocols to which it is a party.

In this vein, Algeria hopes that this humanitarian legal framework may allow further development and codification of humanitarian rules and principles placing human beings and their full and effective protection, above all other considerations.

Moreover, and as far as the rapid technological development and possible use of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) in armed conflict is deeply alarming, Algeria supports the work of the GGE LAWS and looks forward to strengthening its mandate, in the context of the objectives and purposes of the CCW, to pursue a legally-binding instrument on LAWS for addressing the humanitarian and international security challenges posed by the emerging technologies in the area of LAWS.

My delegation wishes to express its gratitude to all stakeholders for their efforts to advance the work of the GGE, towards concrete results, including the initiative of a joint statement, delivered today on behalf of a Group of States, that my country shares its objectives aiming at strengthening convergence on LAWS.

On other hand, the fulfillment of the noble objectives set out by the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Convention (APMB) is also among our top priorities.

The experience of Algeria, which has implemented its obligations under this Convention, in continuity with its national efforts in the area of mine clearance and victim assistance, presents a success model in the fight against anti-personnel mines and their devastating effects.

It is worth recalling that five years ago, Algeria has successfully carried out its landmine clearance obligations under the Ottawa Convention.

Furthermore, Algeria continues to fully support the work of the Convention, including through active participation in the activities of its Standing Committees. It is in this context that Algeria had the privilege of chairing the Committee for Assistance to Victims of Antipersonnel Mines for the year 2022.

Lastly, my delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, the African Group and the Arab Group under this cluster.

**I thank you.**