



**PERMANENT MISSION OF JAMAICA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**STATEMENT BY**

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TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON**

**AGENDA ITEM 7:**

*Consideration of the implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, including an exchange of views on the implications of the developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design, taking into account all views and proposals of Member States, as well as relevant deliberations during previous meetings and relevant GA resolutions adopted by consensus.*

**AT THE**

**SEVENTH BIENNIAL MEETING OF THE STATE 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**

**UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK**

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**FINAL TEXT**

**Mr Chair,**

Jamaica welcomes discussions under this agenda item as this provides a medium for States to highlight concerns surrounding new developments in the manufacturing and design of small arms that present a challenge to the effective implementation of the International Tracing Instrument.

We believe consideration should be given to discussions surrounding firearms that are manufactured using polymer components, the development of modular weapon systems and those manufactured using a 3D printer, that is, 3D firearms. These weapons are manufactured using parts and components that are made of various materials (such as plastic) which may prove difficult to trace using the conventional tracing methods. Such firearms may also present a challenge in being detected at borders.

It is crucial that a consensus be reached among States on the most suitable mechanisms that should be explored to adequately account for, and trace these weapons, in keeping with the requirements of the International Tracing Instrument, especially given the novel nature of these firearms.

**Mr Chair,**

Jamaica stresses the importance of the transfer of technology as well as the application of measures such as capacity building for the involved personnel and maintenance of the transferred equipment.

Ignoring the importance of technology transfer and the development of sustained in-country expertise could lead to a further widening of the technological divide between the developed and developing countries. It is indeed unfortunate but we continue to face barriers in implementing the basic requirements of the PoA and ITI. We emphasize the need for more in-depth consideration of new and existing technologies including international cooperation and assistance, capacity building and transfer of technology and knowledge.

The multidimensional and multifaceted nature of the risks and threats faced by countries in our region are increasingly interconnected, cross-cutting, network-centric and transnational. The repercussions of emerging threats now propagate rapidly around the world, so that events in any part of the world are now far more likely to have immediate consequences for Jamaica and other CARICOM States.

**Jamaica could therefore support the recommendations to: establish a technical group to inform on development related to technological challenges and opportunities; enhance dialogue with industry; explore marking standards for modular weapons; and promote targeted capacity-building and training on accurate identification of weapons.**

Jamaica would also support the development of a Supplementary Annex to the ITI to address these developments in SALW manufacturing, technology, design, materials used as well as implications for the ITI.

**Thank you.**