STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE PLENARY CHAIR ON 2024 OUTCOMES

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THE WASSENAAR ARRANGEMENT¹ ON EXPORT CONTROLS FOR CONVENTIONAL ARMS AND DUAL-USE GOODS AND TECHNOLOGIES

The 28th Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) Plenary meeting was chaired by Ambassador Debora Lepre (Italy) and took place in Vienna on 4-5 December 2024.

In 2024, the WA continued to contribute to international and regional security and stability by promoting transparency and greater responsibility in the transfer of conventional arms and dualuse goods and technologies, thus preventing destabilising accumulations. The WA Control Lists were updated and improved, taking into account international security developments, technological change and market trends. The WA engaged in targeted outreach activities with non-participating states and relevant international and regional organisations in order to promote effective export controls worldwide.

During 2024, WA Participating States:

- continued to exchange information on transfers of arms and dual-use goods and technologies, as well as the risks associated with potentially destabilising arms flows to geographic regions of concern, including areas of conflict;
- reaffirmed the important roles played by strong export controls and close cooperation in preventing arms diversion and the acquisition of conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies by terrorists;
- continued a comprehensive and systematic review of the WA Control Lists to ensure their ongoing relevance;
- adopted new controls including with respect to sub-orbital spacecraft and their components in the Munitions List, as well as technologies for the production of metal alloy powders which are used in high-performance additive manufacturing in the List of Dual-Use Goods and Technologies;
- clarified Control List entries including those covering control systems for submersible vehicles, directed energy weapons, and epitaxy-covered substrates for semiconductor manufacturing;
- shared experiences in national export control implementation, including with respect to licensing and enforcement practices;

The Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies was established on the basis of the *Initial Elements* adopted in July 1996 (see www.wassenaar.org). Meetings are normally held in Vienna, Austria, where the Arrangement is based. The 42 Participating States of the Wassenaar Arrangement are: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Slovenia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

- maintained informal technical contacts with the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) and the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) on Control List issues at the level of experts; and
- reviewed the progress of current membership applications.

From 1 January 2025, Japan will assume the Chair of the Plenary, Australia will assume the Chair of the General Working Group, the Netherlands will assume the Chair of the Experts Group and Canada will continue to serve as Chair of the Licensing and Enforcement Officers Meeting.

The next regular WA Plenary meeting is to take place in Vienna in December 2025.

All key WA documents, including the Control Lists and Best Practice Guidelines, are available on the WA website (www.wassenaar.org).

Vienna, 5 December 2024