STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE PLENARY CHAIR ON 2022 OUTCOMES OF

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

The twenty-sixth WA Plenary meeting, the first since 2019 because of COVID-related constraints, was chaired by Ambassador Eoin O'Leary (Ireland) and took place in Vienna on 30 November-1 December 2022.

In 2022 the Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) continued to contribute to international and regional security and stability by promoting transparency and greater responsibility in the transfer of conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies, thus preventing destabilising accumulations. Work progressed on updating and improving the WA Control Lists, taking into account international and regional 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 world-wide.

During 2022, 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 specific geographic regions of concern, including areas of conflict;
- reaffirmed the important role 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 export controls in a number of areas, such as supersonic flight technology and rim-driven motors for submarine propulsion; updated existing controls regarding highperformance computers, certain types of lasers, submunitions and grenades, aircraft ground equipment, navigational satellite jamming equipment and inertial measurement equipment; and confirmed the validity of previously agreed controls on sub-orbital craft, lawful interception technology and digital investigation tools;
- shared experiences in national export control implementation, including in licensing and enforcement practices;
- updated the "Best Practices regarding Very Sensitive List Items" originally adopted in 2000, updated the "End-User Assurances Commonly Used Consolidated Indicative List" last amended in 2005, and identified other existing guidelines for possible updating as appropriate in 2023;

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.

Participating States of the Wassenaar Arrangement have agreed to appoint Ambassador György Molnár (Hungary) as the next Head of the WA Secretariat effective 2 January 2023. He will replace Ambassador Philip Griffiths (New Zealand) whose tenure expires on 1 January 2023.

From 1 January 2023, India will assume the Chair of the Plenary, Argentina will assume the Chair of the General Working Group, Mexico will assume the Chair of the Experts Group, and Switzerland will continue to provide the Chair of the Licensing and Enforcement Officers Meeting.

The next regular WA Plenary meeting is to take place in Vienna in December 2023.

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

Vienna, 1 December 2022