The Office for Disarmament Affairs presents its compliments to relevant international and regional organizations and has the honour to refer to resolution 74/60 entitled “The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects” (www.un.org/disarmament/salw/programme-of-action), adopted by the General Assembly on 12 December 2019.

By operative paragraph 15 of the resolution, the General Assembly:

“Encourages States, relevant international and regional organizations and civil society with the capacity to do so to cooperate with and provide assistance to other States, upon request, in the preparation of comprehensive national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument”.

Assistance to States in this regard includes provision of technical and procedural advice, as well as liaison between States and the Office for Disarmament Affairs on the preparation of national reports.

It would be appreciated if your organization could forward attached Notes Verbales (ODA/2020-0057/SALW) dated 12 February and 31 March 2020 to relevant States; and if possible share a list of their contact information with the Office for Disarmament Affairs (conventionalarms-unoda@un.org). Only States that have submitted national reports are listed in the 2020 reports webpage: https://smallarms.un-arm.org/national-reports.

The Office for Disarmament Affairs would like to refer to the outcome document of the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in 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 (A/CONF.192/2018/RC/3).

By section II, paragraphs A.1. (b) 10 and A.5. 67, States resolved:

“To encourage relevant regional and subregional organizations and mechanisms to designate, and share information on, points of contact for work relating to the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons”; and
“To encourage relevant regional and subregional organizations and mechanisms to report on actions they have taken at the regional and subregional levels that support the implementation of the Programme of Action”.

In order to facilitate the preparation of regional reporting, a sample template is attached herewith. All submissions should be sent via e-mail to conventionalarmsunoda@un.org by 31 May. Information included in the reports will be shared with States through the BMS7 website (www.un.org/disarmament/convarms/bms7) and be utilized for analyses on the status and progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument at the regional and subregional levels.

The Office for Disarmament Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to relevant international and regional organizations the assurances of its highest consideration.

6 April 2020

Annex enclosed