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English only

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**Working Group on Firearms**

Vienna, 9 June 2015

Item 2 of the provisional agenda\*

**Outcomes of the study of the transnational nature of and routes used in trafficking in firearms****Note by the Secretariat****I. Introduction**

1. In its resolution 5/4, the Conference requested UNODC to conduct a study of the transnational nature of and routes used in trafficking in firearms, based on the analysis of information provided by States on confiscated weapons and ammunition. At the sixth session of the Conference, the Secretariat provided a summary of the information collected from States on the illicit firearms trafficking situation in their respective countries, and suggestions regarding the global scope of such a study (CTOC/COP/2012/12).
2. In its resolution 6/2, the Conference took note of the information gathered so far by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in carrying out the study and requested the Office to improve the methodology and complete the study in accordance with its mandate, for consideration by the Conference at its seventh session. The Conference called upon States to participate in and contribute to the study, as appropriate.
3. Pursuant to that mandate, UNODC developed a methodology for the study, in cooperation with Member States, and made available two online questionnaires, with a view to standardizing and facilitating the data-gathering process of States, which were also made available to the Working Group on Firearms at its meeting held from 26 to 28 May 2014 (CTOC/COP/WG.6/2014/CRP.1 and CTOC/COP/WG.6/2014/CRP.2).
4. In its resolution 7/2, entitled "Importance of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational

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\* CTOC/COP/WG.6/2015/1.



Organized Crime”, the Conference took note with appreciation of the study of the transnational nature of and routes used in trafficking in firearms carried out by UNODC in accordance with the mandate given in Conference resolutions 5/4 of 22 October 2010 and 6/2 of 19 October 2012, and requested the Office to finalize and disseminate the study.

5. Also in resolution 7/2, the Conference requested UNODC to continue gathering information from States parties on illicit trafficking in firearms on a regular basis, and directed the Working Group on Firearms to consider the outcomes of the study, with a view to making recommendations to the Conference, at its eighth session, on the future of the study, including, but not limited to, whether the study should be repeated and/or updated and improved upon.

6. In accordance with the above resolutions, the outcomes of the study on the transnational nature of and routes and modus operandi used in trafficking in firearms will be made available to the Working Group on Firearms at its third session.