

WASSENAAR ARRANGEMENT OUTREACH SEMINAR

Vienna, October 3, 2005

Press Statement

On October 3, 2005, approximately 150 business representatives and government officials from WA countries participated in the Wassenaar Arrangement's "Outreach to Industry" seminar, hosted by the Permanent Mission of Japan to International Organizations in Vienna.* Seminar participants included representatives of over 50 companies involved in the production of and trade in conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies, as well as think-tanks, export control authorities of Wassenaar Arrangement member countries, and academic institutions.

The aim of this second Wassenaar Arrangement seminar was to provide for a professional exchange of views and sharing of national experiences with the aim of strengthening the effectiveness of export controls.

After opening remarks by Ambassador Seiji Morimoto of Japan, Ambassador Dorothea Auer of Austria (Wassenaar's 2005 Plenary Chair), and Ambassador Sune Danielsson, Head of the Wassenaar Secretariat, representatives of industry and governments participated in panel discussions focused on key issues relating to sensitive dual-use exports (List Review procedures, Control of Non-Listed Items, End-Use assurances, Emerging Technologies, Intangible Transfers of Technology, Internal Control Programmes) and trade in conventional armaments (Prevention of Destabilizing Accumulation of Arms, Small Arms and Light Weapons, including Man-Portable Air-Defense Systems, Control of Arms Brokering, Extra-Territorial Application of national Laws). The panels were followed by a roundtable discussion on experiences of industries with regard to compliance with export control requirements.

* The Vienna-based Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies (WA) is designed to promote transparency, exchange of views and information and greater responsibility in transfers of conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies, thus preventing destabilizing accumulations of such items (see www.wassenaar.org for details).