

**STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE PLENARY CHAIR
OF
THE WASSENAAR ARRANGEMENT ON EXPORT CONTROLS FOR
CONVENTIONAL ARMS AND DUAL-USE GOODS AND TECHNOLOGIES**

In 2021, the 25th anniversary of its establishment, the Wassenaar Arrangement (WA)* continued its efforts 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.

Although COVID-19 related disruptions continued to affect the WA work programme, Participating States resumed some in-person meetings and cooperated intersessionally in order to exchange information and experiences in the effective export control of conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies, as well as to continue the comprehensive and systematic review of the WA Control Lists, thus ensuring their ongoing relevance. International security developments, technological change and market trends continued to inform the work of the WA.

Decisions were reached to update the WA Munitions and Dual-Use Lists and to continue implementation of the WA's work programme and the functioning of its Secretariat.

Changes to the WA Control Lists include the introduction of controls for computer-assisted-design software tools for high-end components and new classes of metallic and organic substrates used in highly sophisticated applications. Some controls were relaxed, such as those applying to fluorinated silicon fluids, metal working parameters for commercial applications, the performance level of High-Performance Computers and multi-mode lasers, and radars used in automotive anti-collision applications.

Collective outreach activities undertaken included a 25th anniversary technically-focussed Practical Workshop in webinar format for some 46 regular outreach partner countries.

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

From 1 January 2022, Ireland will assume the Chair of the Plenary, South Africa will assume the Chair of the General Working Group, Malta will continue to chair the Experts Group, and Switzerland will assume the Chair of the Licensing and Enforcement Officers Meeting. The next regular WA Plenary meeting is to take place in Vienna in December 2022.

Ambassador Károly Dán
2021 Plenary Chair
Vienna, 23 December 2021

* 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 (available at www.wassenaar.org). Meetings are normally held in Vienna, Austria, where the Arrangement is based. The current 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, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, and the United States.