

## Thailand

### Session III National Legislation and Regulation

- Thailand understands that illicit brokering of small arms and light weapons has become a growing concern. To prevent illicit brokering, arms transfer activities need to be adequately regulated and enforced. We would like to share with you our own experience on this matter.
- At present, Thailand does not have any specific laws on arms brokering activities in response to the UN Programme of Action. However, our domestic laws and regulations as well as Ministerial Order are properly enforced. The export and import of arms must be authorized by competent agencies under the Act on Export Control of Armaments and Material 1987. Therefore, we are able to effectively control export and import as well as trading activities. Thailand also has a comprehensive system for compulsory registration of SALW and licensing of arms owners as well as arms-store owners.
- Moreover, the Cabinet approved a regulation on the control of Man-Portable Air Defense Systems (MANPAD) aiming to strengthen measures and co-operation among concerned agencies to prevent and control the use of such potent devices. Our effort to control the MANPADS is responsive to the shared concern of the international community on the illicit access and wrongdoings of terrorist groups.
- Although these existing laws and orders have specifically targeted on arms-related activities, they, at the same time, have indirect effects in preventing possible wrongdoings that may derive from the illicit brokering.
- At present, Thailand is also in the process of amending the Firearms, Ammunition, Explosive Articles and Fireworks and Imitation of Firearms Act, which has been in effect since 1947 to be more applicable to the changing situation. The draft Defence Industry Act has also been approved by the Cabinet and is under Council of State's consideration.
- With the existing laws and the ongoing amendments to strengthen our legislative system and enforcement on SALW issue, we can effectively prevent the access to arms by criminals and terrorist groups and forms of illegal transfer of arms. Nonetheless, Thailand welcomes opportunities to explore the feasibility of developing specific law or regulation on arms brokering control as well as effective capability to enforce relevant judicial system.

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