



In Cooperation With



With The Kind Support Of



**Regional Asia Parliamentary Workshop on Regulation of Small Arms and Light Weapons
And Mitigation of Armed Violence**

Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel

Dhaka, Bangladesh

24-25 August, 2015



DHAKA PLAN OF ACTION

Recognizing the serious human and humanitarian consequences of the inadequate regulation and poor oversight of the international trade in small arms and light weapons, including in the Asia region

Taking note of the extensive panoply of international treaties and other agreements already in place that seek to better regulate this trade, including the UN Programme of Action on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons, the UN Firearms Protocol, the International Tracing Instrument and the *Arms Trade Treaty*

Taking note also of the serious adverse impact of inadequate regulation of Small Arms and Light Weapon on economic development in our countries and our region

Welcoming Goal 11 and Goal 16 of the proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which, respectively, seek safety of cities and human settlements and promotion of peaceful societies

Welcoming also the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty on 24 December, 2014

Mindful of the importance and many ways that Members of Parliament can play in promoting adherence to international treaties and agreements by our respective governments as well as *Recognizing* the importance of greater regional cooperation and coordination in addressing the regulation of Small Arms and Light Weapons

Recognizing also the essential role that regional organizations, civil society as well as other concerned stakeholders in the defense sector and academia can play in providing information, advice and expertise to more effectively address the inadequate regulation of small arms and light weapons

Determined to improve the security and basic welfare of our region

We, Members of Parliament from South and South-East Asia, will seek to take one or more of the following steps, as applicable, upon conclusion of this Workshop

- Reach out to our colleagues in Government to encourage better understanding of, improved compliance with and/or ratification of, as appropriate, international treaties and agreements regulating the trade in, and transfer of, small arms and light weapons, including the UN Programme of Action on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons and the Arms Trade Treaty

- Convene Committee or Sub-Committee Meetings in our respective Parliaments as a means of highlighting the important role that Parliamentarians can take in promoting improved oversight of the regulation of the trade and transfer of small arms and light weapons in our region
- Reach out to media outlets in our respective countries to publicize our efforts to promote improved regulation of the transfer of small arms and light weapons in our countries and region
- Keep in contact with, and inform the organizers of this Workshop of any initiatives we have taken pursuant to this Plan of Action and express appreciation to PGA and ChangeMaker as well as to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland for their generous support of this Workshop

Done this 25th day of August, 2015 in Dhaka, Bangladesh