

Implementation Assistance Notice: Conventional Arms and Related Materiel

The following information may be useful to Member States in implementing their obligations under resolutions 1737 (2006), 1747 (2007), 1803 (2008), and 1929 (2011).

Background

Paragraph 5 of resolution 1747 (2007) prohibits Iran to “supply, sell or transfer directly or indirectly from its territory or by its nationals or using its flag vessels or aircraft any arms or related materiel,” and obliges all States to “prohibit the procurement of such items from Iran by their nationals, or using their flag vessels or aircraft, and whether or not originating in the territory of Iran.”

Member States are required under paragraph 8 of resolution 1929 (2010) to prevent the “direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer to Iran any battle tanks, armoured combat vehicles, large calibre artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships, missiles or missile systems as defined for the purpose of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, or related materiel, including spare parts, or items as determined by the Security Council or the Committee.” Member States are further prohibited from supplying Iran with relevant training and financing, and are called upon to exercise “vigilance and restraint” over the supply of all arms and related materiel.

Of the 19 incidents reported to the 1737 Committee, 11 concern transfers of conventional arms and/or related materiel in violation of Security Council resolutions on Iran. Many of the incidents inspected revealed deliberate efforts by Iran, to conceal both the nature and destination of the prohibited cargo, including arms, ammunitions and explosives, through false statements on shipping documents and by using commercial shipping containers.

Recommendations for Member States

In light of the reported sanctions violations involving prohibited arms transfers from Iran, the Committee reminds Member States of their obligations under resolutions 1747 (2007) and 1929 (2010), and urges them to maintain a high level of vigilance, with the aim of preventing and seizing and disposing of prohibited transfers of arms and related materiel according to paragraphs 14, 15, and 16, and to report within the time specified in paragraph 17 of resolution 1929 (2010) any such incidents to the Committee, and to cooperate fully with the Panel of Experts as it seeks to inspect such incidents.