

## **Resolution 198:**

**FORUM:** General Assembly Committee 1 – DISEC

**QUESTION OF:** Disarmament and Development in Africa

**SUBMITTED BY:** The Federal Republic of Germany

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

*Aware* that the usage of arms in open warfare transcends borders and nations and poses a threat to humanity as a whole,

*Recalling* the preamble of the United Nations (UN) Charter which states its purpose as to ‘save succeeding generations from the scourge of war’,

*Alarmed by* the multiple conflicts ravaging the African continent,

*Deeply disturbed by* the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and their excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world, which have a wide range of humanitarian and socio-economic consequences and pose a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at individual, local, national, regional and international levels,

*Noting* all resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (GCUNIDO) at its fifth session and the Mauritius Declaration on Africa’s Accelerated Industrial Recovery and Development in the context of the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002) and Beyond, adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry (CAMI) at its eleventh meeting,

*Noting further* the close link between terrorism, organized crime, trafficking in drugs and precious minerals and the illicit trade in SALW, and stressing the urgency of international efforts and cooperation aimed at combating this trade from a supply and demand perspective simultaneously,

*Further recalling* the General Assembly’s resolution A/RES/71/76 that calls for disarmament in Africa,

*Fully alarmed by* the difficulty to control the distribution of arms on the continent of Africa as well as the illicit arms trade and problems related to it,

*Further noting* the destructive impact that war and military conflicts could have on the populations of different countries such as restricting children from education, causing food and water shortages, destroying living spaces and restricting access to health services,

*Realizing* that the issues of arm possession, illicit arms trade as well as the conflicts that might arise from them slow down the development of a country by affecting living standards of populations,

*Taking into account* the destructive capabilities and potential casualties that can be caused by weapons defined by the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms (UNROCA) as

Category I, Category II, Category III, Category IV, Category V, Category VI and Category VII,

*Fully aware* that the export of arms from more economically developed countries such as the United States of America or China to Africa does also happen in an illegal manner,

*Recognizing* the work that has been done by international organisations such as the United Nations Regional Center for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC), African Union (AU), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) and many others concerned by the issue,

*Guided by* United Nations General Assembly resolutions 71/76, 70/66, United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540, the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention), West Africa on the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials, African Union Strategy on the Control of Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy, African Union Common Position on an Arms Trade Treaty and the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty,

1. Calls for the creation of the United Nations Mission for Disarmament in Africa (UNMDA) in the African region to work with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and under the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNRCPDA), funded by the UNRCPDA and founded within the next 6 months with its offices in Addis Ababa to:
  - a) present an annual report to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) which shall contain including but not limited to:
    - i. the state of weapons facilities in African member nations, that shall be inspected bi-annually by UNMDA officials
    - ii. the trade of arms between African member nations themselves and non-African member nations
    - iii. the state of illicit arms trade related to the continent through investigations in tandem with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)
    - iv. the distribution of small arms in each African nation and their respective quantities
  - b) make clear the importance of disarmament through various media, including but not limited to radio, press and television
  - c) work with African member nations to set up a framework for an annual conference on disarmament to be called the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) under the direct oversight of the African Union (AU) to be held in Addis Ababa from 2019 onwards in order to:
    - i. discuss matters regarding disarmament policy
    - ii. discuss collective measures to reduce illicit arms trade in the continent
    - iii. set targets for arms reduction for the next 5 years
    - iv. advise African governments, if need be, on matters of disarmament policy;

2. Further recommends the formation of an international coalition called the African Development Project (ADP) within the next 6 months which shall consist of representatives from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank (WB), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) to support African development projects with the following in mind:
  - a) African nations seeking investment should apply to the ADP with a detailed report specifying including:
    - i. the nature of the development project
    - ii. the amount of funds required
    - iii. the expected time period of the project
    - iv. the benefits of the project
  - b) the ADP will conduct bi-annual inspections of the progress of the project and write reports, to be archived in a database, which are to be further supplemented by reports on the use of ADP funds reported on a bi-annual basis by the member nations
  - c) the ADP, working with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) will submit annual reports to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UNECOSOC) and the African Union (AU) that will detail:
    - i. specific evaluations of the performance of each African nation's economic development
    - ii. actions that the UN and its agencies could take to foster development in Africa
  - d) the ADP, working with the UNECA, will help African nations set up government sponsored microfinance institutions or strengthen pre-existing microfinance institutions for the purpose of supporting start-ups and small businesses;
3. Suggests the following measures be taken to help foster economic growth in African member nations:
  - a) the ADP will work with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTD), national and multinational companies to start an 'Africa: The Rising Continent' investment programme where:
    - i. any and all investments made will be given to the ADP for usage in Africa
    - ii. these investments are given to African nations for usage after following the procedure mentioned previously
    - iii. African nations incentivise their economies to attract the participation of foreign companies
  - b) the ADP uses Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs) if required by an African nation
  - c) the ADP will work with the UNDP and the AU to use multiple media to help attract the attention of foreign investors;
4. Encourages the use of the following measures to help implement disarmament education in education curricula in African member nations:
  - a) African member nations set up a broad framework for the integration of disarmament education into education curriculum(s) that should cover the following, including but not limited to:
    - i. the history of African conflict

- ii. the importance of disarmament in a modernised world
    - iii. the causes and consequences of conflict
    - iv. the benefits of disarmament
    - v. the participation of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in the process mentioned in the previously in order to formulate a curriculum for African disarmament education
  - b) schools host yearly lectures on fines and punishments with regards to:
    - i. possession of illegal weaponry
    - ii. unjustified use of weaponry;
5. Further emphasizes the need for strong education systems in order to foster development in Africa and thus recommends the following:
- a) the creation of a report by the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education and its submission to the DISEC within 2 years of the passing of this resolution detailing
    - i. the state of education in Africa
    - ii. country specific analysis of education in Africa
    - iii. methods to ameliorate issues in the education system in African countries
    - iv. the working of African companies with African governments to analyse and recognise what skills for jobs are not being promoted in African education
    - v. the strengthening of linguistic training programs in African nations
    - vi. the creation of programmes for students that offers them extra classes for subjects and vocational experience and work experience
  - b) if need be, African nations use funds from the ADP to help develop educational systems
  - c) African nations provide students with incentives, monetary or in kind, to go to school, which will be monitored by the nation in concern
  - d) the creation of workshops and development programmes for African teachers spearheaded by organizations such as but not limited to the UNESCO;
6. Further encourages the following measures in order to restrict the activity of illicit arms trade in the African continent:
- a) African member nations enforce the African Union Border Program (AUBP) more strictly in order to limit this trade
  - b) African member nations use Coordinated Border Management (CBM) strategies in order to limit the trade of illicit arms in border areas with little supervision or demarcation
  - c) African member nations work with the UNMDA, UNROCA and INTERPOL, as stated in clause 1, to curb the illicit arms trade where:
    - i. nations may use INTERPOL databases to create a record of any persons and/or organizations operating in and/or through the nation or trading small arms illegally across borders
    - ii. nations cooperate with INTERPOL in an effort to coordinate resources such as intelligence and monetary supplies to effectively restrict the impact of illicit arms trade in Africa

- d) each member nation keeps a proper record of all illegal small arms successfully intercepted by the bodies of Member States such as the customs department and the border patrol forces where:
    - i. bodies of the UN regarding disarmament affairs, such as the UNODA help oversee the creation of the records if, and only if, a sovereign state asks for assistance in completing the said records
    - ii. member nations co-operate and submit these records to the Secretary General of the United Nations and the UNROCA every year;
7. Recommends all nations, working with the International Tracing Instrument (ITI), conduct periodic checks of all authorized gun dealers and/or gun manufacturing company premises in their nation every year considering that legally manufactured weapons may enter the illegal domain through a point of diversion such as a breach of security, these checks will:
- a) be conducted by any sub-body as deemed appropriate by the national government
  - b) assess the security systems, armed personnel and surveillance cameras used to guard weapon storage areas
  - c) verify whether any weapons have been stolen and/or are missing from a particular weapons manufacturer thorough the use of the records stated in clause 1 and issue warnings if more than a particular amount of such instances occur, to be decided by the government, leading to the owner of the firm facing action including:
    - i. heavy fines, at the discretion of the national authority
    - ii. cancellation of the arms contract issued
    - iii. legal action such as imprisonment in accordance with national legislature
  - d) use national armed forces to increase security at the point of diversion as identified by the national authority within three months of the completion of the assessment;
8. Calls upon the ECA and the ADP, along with the AU to cooperate with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in supporting African industrial cooperation and integrating it further into the industrial sphere in the areas of:
- a) industrial policy and technology
  - b) human resources development
  - c) industrial investment
  - d) small-scale industries and micro-enterprise development
  - e) institutional infrastructure, playing a larger hand in, including but not limited to:
  - f) eradicating poverty
  - g) employment generation in the mineral industry
  - h) vertical integration of micro-enterprises and small-scale industries in the mineral industry;
9. Promises to remain actively seized on the matter.