



Embassy of the Republic of Mauritius and Permanent Mission of Mauritius to the United Nations and other International Organizations

Ambassade de la République de Maurice et Mission Permanente auprès des Nations Unies et des autres Organisations Internationales

No. 57/2017 (MMG/HR/28/3)

The Embassy and Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and with reference to the Note dated 22 December 2016 relating to the Human Rights Council resolution 32/12 on "*Impact of Arms Transfers on Human Rights*" has the honour to submit the duly filled questionnaire on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Mauritius.

The Embassy and Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.



Geneva, 22 February 2017

**The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Palais des Nations
CH-1211
Geneva**

QUESTIONNAIRE -

IMPACT OF ARMS TRANSFERS ON THE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Please identify the ways that arms transfers impact on the enjoyment of human rights. Are there rights that are particularly affected? Are there groups of rights-holders which are particularly affected?

- Some of the ways that arms transfers impact on the enjoyment of Human Rights are as hereunder:-
 - Individual killing;
 - Mass killing;
 - Civil war;
 - Genocide;
 - Terrorism, etc
- Mauritius is the signatory of relevant conventions on arms and weapons. It has also enacted the Firearms Act 2006 (amended in 2016) so as to be in line with international treaties and conventions. Furthermore, there are well established policies and procedures respecting the import, export, transit, etc, of arms and weapons.
- By virtue of the above control mechanisms, risk of possible violations to Human Rights and human sufferings, is quasi inexistent.
- In light of the foregoing, the rights of the individuals or groups are not affected.

2. If your Government undertakes arms transfers, please indicate whether your Government assesses the impact that each arms transfer may have on the enjoyment of human rights. What considerations are taken into account when making these assessments, including national procedures and/or laws and international obligations and standards? On what information and/or sources of information does your Government base its assessments?

- The Government of Mauritius does not undertake arms transfers.

3. If your Government does not undertake arms transfers, what considerations should be taken into account by others when assessing the impact an arms transfer may have on human rights, including national procedures and/or laws and international obligations and standards? On what information and/or sources of information should such assessments be based?

- Considerations should be given to the following:-
 - An assessment of the extent to which Human Rights is guaranteed by the receiving State.

- The risk of any violation of Human Rights in such State.
- Viability of procedures to:-
 - o Assess the reliability of the existing system and procedures;
 - o Analyse integrity of stakeholders involved in the transfer procedures;
 - o Scrutinise the authenticity of relevant documents; and
 - o Ensure timely exchange of intelligence/cooperation with friendly countries, Interpol, Counter Terrorism Unit and Local Shipping Agents.

4. If your Government undertakes arms transfer, has your Government in the past refused to authorise a proposed arms transfer to arms transfers on the basis that the arms transfer would impact on the enjoyment of human rights? If so, please identify the factors that were taken into consideration in making this decision, and the nature of the human rights that would have been impacted by such the proposed transfer?

- The Government of Mauritius does not undertake arms transfers.

5. If your Government undertakes arms transfers, has your Government in the past refused to authorise a proposed arms transfer or arms transfers on the grounds of the risk of the diversion of the arms?

- The Government of Mauritius does not undertake arms transfers.

**Prime Minister's Office
13 February 2017**