

CONTROL OF SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS BILL, 2021

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A BILL EXECUTIVE

FOR

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE COORDINATION AND CONTROL OF THE PROLIFERATION OF SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS IN NIGERIA AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS

[] Commencement

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as follows-

1 PART I - OBJECTIVE AND APPLICATION

2 1. The objectives of this Act are to-

Objectives of this Act

3 (a) control the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in
4 Nigeria;

5 (b) provide a framework for the coordination, implementation and
6 monitoring of all efforts geared towards the control of small arms and light
7 weapons in Nigeria; and

8 (c) prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and
9 light weapons.

10 2. This Act shall apply throughout the Federal Republic of
11 Nigeria. Application

12 PART II - ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE
13 CONTROL OF SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

14 3.-(1) There is established a National Centre for the Control of
15 Small Arms and Light Weapons, ("the National Centre") which shall be
16 domiciled in the Office of the National Security Adviser.

Establishment of the National-Centre for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons

17 (2) The Office of the National Security Adviser (in this Act referred
18 to as "ONSA") shall be-

19 (a) the coordinating body for all security and enforcement agencies
20 under this Act.

21 (b) responsible for-

- 1 (i) policy formulation, coordination and monitoring of effort to
2 address small arms and light weapons related issues within Nigeria,
3 (ii) monitoring of effort to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit
4 trade in small arms and light weapons, and
5 (iii) providing regular briefings and reports to the Government on the
6 progress and challenges of the implementation of the national policy and
7 strategy on small arms and light weapons, with the aim of facilitating the
8 necessary political will, understanding and support for activities and
9 programmes dealing with small arms and light weapons.

Functions and
powers of the
National Centre

10 4. The National Centre shall-

- 11 (a) implement strategies, plans and policies for the eradication of
12 proliferation of small arms and light weapons;
13 (b) supervise the implementation of the strategies, plan and policies
14 for the eradication of proliferation of small arms and light weapons, by law
15 enforcement agencies and other relevant Ministries, Departments and
16 Agencies in Nigeria;
17 (c) receive from the Nigeria Police Force, reports of activities on
18 registration and licensing of fire arms and ammunition for the purposes of
19 updating the national database;
20 (d) register and securely store or destroy small arms-
21 (i) collected from the Nigeria Police Force, Armed Forces and other
22 security agencies, and
23 (ii) seized or recovered from criminal's, terrorist, insurgents and any
24 other person in possession of illegal small arms and light weapons;
25 (e) organize programmes of action to prevent, control, combat and
26 eradicate the illegal trade in small arms and light weapons;
27 (f) coordinate the design and implementation of an effective public
28 education and awareness campaign relative to small arms and light weapons;
29 (g) create and maintain a national database of all small arms and light
30 weapons (SALW);

1 (h) update the register of small arms and light weapons and
2 transmit same to the United Nations (UN), African Union (AU), the
3 Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) and any other
4 international organization that may so require;

5 (i) advise the Economic Community of West Africa States
6 (ECOWAS), the African Union (AU) and United Nations (UN) on
7 exemptions to be granted to member states for weapons of categories 1, 2
8 and 3 of the ECOWAS Protocol on SALW to meet legitimate national
9 defence and security needs, or to participate in peace keeping or other
10 operations in accordance with the decisions of the United Nations, African
11 Union, Economic Community of West African States or other regional or
12 sub-regional body of which it is a member;

13 (j) liaise with the Economic Community of West African States,
14 African Union, United Nations in all matters relating to the eradication of
15 proliferation of small arms and light weapons in general at the regional,
16 continental and global levels;

17 (k) initiate and develop mechanisms for exchanging information
18 and experience with the National Centres, Commissions or National
19 coordinating bodies for the eradication of proliferation of small arms and
20 light weapons of other member states of the Economic Community of West
21 African States, African Union and United Nations;

22 (l) conduct periodic research, studies and surveys to gather
23 accurate information on impacts of interventions, to track the mutating
24 dimension of the problem of small arms and light weapons and the lessons
25 learned; and to use such information; and

26 (m) perform such other functions that may be assigned to it by
27 Federal Government of Nigeria.

28 PART III - POSSESSION SALE AND TRANSFER OF FIREARMS

29 5. A person shall not have in his possession or under his control
30 any firearm, or ammunition for any firearm or any component part of such

Possession of
firearms

1 ammunition, in the following categories except in accordance with a licence
2 granted by the President ~~on~~ on the advice of the National Centre-

3 (a) lethal barreled weapon of any description from which any shot,
4 bullet or other missile can be discharged;

5 (b) muzzle loading firearm of any category;

6 (c) component of any firearms;

7 (d) weapon from which a shot is discharged; or

8 (e) weapon, rifle or pistol from which a projectile can be fired.

Personal firearms

9 6.-(1) A person shall not have in his possession or under his control
10 any firearm of one of the categories specified in section 5 of this Act ("personal
11 firearm") except in accordance with a licence granted in respect of it by the
12 Inspector-General of Police, which licence shall be granted or refused in
13 accordance with guidelines specified by the President on the advice of the
14 National Centre.

15 (2) The Inspector-General of Police shall provide to the National
16 Centre-

17 (a) details of all licensed personal firearms; and

18 (b) monthly analysis on seizures of illegal weapons.

Muzzle-loading
firearms

19 7.-(1) The Commissioner of Police of a State, with the consent of the
20 Governor of the state may grant license for the possession or control of muzzle-
21 loading firearm.

22 (2) The Commissioner of Police of a state shall give monthly report of
23 firearms licenced under the provisions of subsection (1) of this section to the
24 National Centre.

25 (3) The grant of a licence in respect of a muzzle-loading firearm in
26 respect of which application has been duly made shall not be refused except for
27 one of any reason specified by the ~~President~~ ent.

Grant of licences
and permits

28 8.-(1) Subject to the provisions of section 7 of this Act and the
29 Firearms Act, the authority having the function of granting a licence or permit
30 may grant licence or permit to a person deemed fit.

1 (2) The authority having the function of granting a licence or
2 permit may, subject to the provisions of any regulations made under this Act-

3 (a) impose such terms or conditions as deemed fit; or

4 (b) revoke a licence or permit for such cause as he may consider
5 appropriate.

6 (3) A person whose application for licence or permit is refused by
7 the Police authority other than a decision by the President, may appeal in
8 writing to the President through the National Centre, whose decision shall
9 be final.

10 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 6 and 7 of this Act,
11 no licence or permit under the provisions of this Act shall be granted if there
12 is reason to believe that the applicant or holder of the licence-

13 (a) is under the age of 21;

14 (b) is of unsound mind;

15 (c) is not fit to have possession of the firearm in question on
16 account of defective eyesight;

17 (d) is a person of intemperate habits; or

18 (e) has been previously convicted of an offence involving violence
19 or the threat of violence.

20 (5) The Inspector General of Police or the Commissioner of Police
21 of a state shall provide details of-

22 (a) rejected applications for licence or permit to the National
23 Centre within 1 month of the rejection; and

24 (b) revoked licences to the National Centre within 1 month of the
25 revocation.

26 9.-(1) The owner of a firearm in respect of which a licence or
27 permit has been granted in accordance with the provisions of this Act shall
28 be responsible for the safe custody of the firearm to which the licence or
29 permit relates.

30 (2) The owner of a firearm! in the case of loss, theft or destruction

Safe custody of
firearms

1 of the firearm! shall-

2 (a) notify such loss! theft or destruction and the circumstances of it
3 within 14 days to the authority who issued the licence or permit, surrender the
4 licence or permit; and

5 (b) do such other action as the authority may consider necessary.

6 (3) Where the holder of a licence or permit dies! a person lawfully in
7 possession of the chattels of the deceased or a person to whom a firearm or
8 ammunition of the deceased has been bequeathed may notwithstanding any
9 other provision of this Act, lawfully have in his possession a firearm or
10 ammunition in respect of which the deceased person held a licence or permit
11 for a period of 14 days after such death.

12 (4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (3) of this section,
13 the Inspector-General of Police may, if he deems fit, seize the firearm or
14 ammunition and retain or deposit same in a public armoury as provided in the
15 Firearms Act, until a licence or permit is granted in respect of such firearm.

16 (5) The occurrence of any of the situation provided in subsection (2),
17 (3) and (4) of this section, shall be reported to the National Centre within 30
18 days for record and analysis.

Ammunition

19 10.-(1) A person shall not have in his possession or under his control
20 any ammunition for any firearm and any component part of any ammunition or
21 gun powder or trade powder intended or used as a component part, except in
22 accordance with the terms of a license or permit granted to him and in respect of
23 such firearm.

24 (2) The provisions of sub-section (1) of this section shall apply in
25 respect of all ammunition, except-

26 (a) lead shot for use only as a weight; or

27 (b) blank cartridges other than those for humane killers not exceeding
28 2.54 centimeters in diameter.

29 11.-(1) A person shall not buy, sell, transfer, expose for sale or transfer,
30 or have in his possession for sale or transfer, any firearm unless the person is

Prohibition of
dealing in arms
or ammunition

1 registered as a firearms dealer.

2 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, any
3 application for registration as a firearm dealer shall be confirmed by the
4 National Centre before approval.

5 (3) The National Centre shall maintain a database of registered
6 firearms dealers in Nigeria.

7 (4) A person shall not buy, sell, transfer or expose for sale or
8 transfer or have in his possession for sale or transfer any ammunition,
9 except-

10 (a) the ammunition specified at section 5 (b) of this Act or Part 11 of
11 the Firearms Act; and

12 (b) he is registered as a firearms dealer.

13 (5) The President may, upon the advice of the National Centre
14 direct-

15 (a) the registration of any person as a dealer in firearms; and

16 (b) that any such registration of a dealer be cancelled.

17 12.-(1) A registered firearms dealer shall-

Registered dealer's
armouries

18 (a) construct, in accordance with the requirements prescribed by
19 Regulations pursuant to the Firearms Act, and maintain in proper repair, an
20 armoury at each place in respect of which he carries on business;

21 (b) keep an up to date records of transactions at each place where he
22 carries on business, and shall make such returns in respect of the records as
23 may be prescribed by the National Centre;

24 (c) in the case of loss, theft or destruction of a firearm in his
25 possession, shall notify such loss, theft or destruction within 7 days of the
26 occurrence to the Inspector-General of Police and the National Centre, for
27 record and analysis; and

28 (d) A registered firearms dealer shall permit inspection of each
29 place where he carries on business and the records maintained, by a police
30 officer, upon production by such police officer of the written authority of the

1 Inspector-General of Police.

2 (2) The National Centre-

3 (a) may conduct periodic inspection of registered firearms dealers
4 armoury across Nigeria; and

5 (b) shall keep records of all registered dealers armoury across
6 Nigeria.

Sale or transfer
of firearms or
ammunition

7 13.-(1) A person, whether a registered firearms dealer or not, shall not
8 sell or transfer any firearm or ammunition to any person, except-

9 (a) another registered firearms dealer; or

10 (b) the person produced a licence or permit authorizing him to possess
11 such firearm or ammunition.

12 (2) Any regulations made under this Act and pursuant to the Firearms
13 Act may permit the sale or transfer of a firearm or ammunition by a registered
14 firearms dealer to a person who is not the holder of a licence or permit intending
15 to obtain such licence, upon conditions to be prescribed in such regulations.

Stamping of all
firearms sold

16 14.-(1) A person, whether a registered firearms dealer or not, shall not
17 sell or transfer any firearm unless-

18 (a) there is stamped permanently on it, the maker's name and number
19 or such other particulars as may be prescribed; and

20 (b) the name or number is specified in any licence or permit produced
21 in accordance with section 11 of the Firearms Act.

22 (2) A person, whether a registered firearms dealer or not, shall not
23 alter or render illegible the maker's name or number or other prescribed
24 particulars stamped upon a firearm without the consent in writing of the
25 Inspector General of Police.

26 (3) Where the provisions of subsection (2) of this section is
27 contravened, the inspector General of Police shall notify the National Centre
28 for record and analysis.

1 15.-(1) The National Centre shall have power to collect-

2 (a) small arms which are surplus to the national needs or have
3 become obsolete;

4 (b) seized light weapons;

5 (c) unmarked light weapons;

6 (d) illegally held light weapons; and

7 (e) small arms collected in the implementation of peace accords or
8 programmes for the voluntary handing over of the weapons.

9 (2) A small arm or light weapon collected pursuant to the
10 provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall be registered and securely
11 stored or destroyed.

12 (3) The National Centre shall promote and carry out programmes
13 of voluntary handing over of small arms and light weapons.

14 16.-(1) The National Centre shall take the necessary measures to
15 ensure the safe and effective management, storage and security of national
16 stocks of small arms and light weapons.

17 (2) The National Centre shall, pursuant to the provisions of
18 subsection (1) of this section, establish effective standards and procedures
19 for stockpile management, storage and security, including-

20 (a) appropriate site;

21 (b) physical security measures of storage facilities;

22 (c) inventory management and record keeping;

23 (d) staff training;

24 (e) security during manufacture and transportation; and

25 (f) sanctions in case of theft or loss.

26 (3) The National Centre shall ensure that stockpiles of small arms
27 and light weapons by manufacturers, dealers as well as individuals are
28 securely stored in accordance with the appropriate standards and
29 procedures.

Collection and
storage of small
arms and light
weapons

Management
and security of
stockpiles

1 PART IV - REGISTER OF SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

Establishment
of register of
small arms and
light weapons

2 17.-(1) The National Centre shall keep and maintain a computerised
3 register of small arms and light weapons and a comprehensive national
4 database, in which shall be recorded the following information-

5 (a) description of the product (type, model and caliber) and quality
6 (where it concerns a batch);

7 (b) content of the marking;

8 (c) names and addresses of the former and current owners and, where
9 possible, successive owners;

10 (d) date of registration; and

11 (e) information concerning each transaction, including-

12 (i) the name and address of the shipper, the intermediary (where
13 applicable), the consignee and the user indicated on the end-user-certificate,

14 (ii) the point of departure, transit and destination, as well as the
15 customs references and the dates of departure, transit and delivery to the end-
16 user,

17 (iii) the export, transit and import licence (quantities and batches
18 corresponding to the same licence as well as the validity of the licence),

19 (iv) full details concerning the method of transport and the
20 transporter,

21 (v) the controlling agency or agencies at point of departure, transit and
22 entry,

23 (vi) the nature of the transaction, whether commercial, non-
24 commercial, private or public, conversion, repair, and

25 (vii) where applicable, the insurer and the financial institution
26 intervening in the transaction.

27 (2) The records in the Register of the National Centre shall also be
28 kept in the custody of designated agencies.

Register of arms
for peace operations

29 18.-(1) The National Centre shall-

30 (a) keep and maintain a register of small arms and light weapons

1 destined for use in peacekeeping operations both within and outside the
2 ECOWAS or AU territory to ensure the control of movements of small arms
3 and light weapons and their effective withdrawal at the end of peace
4 operations in which member;

5 (b) declare to the executive secretariat of ECOWAS, AU and UN
6 organization of all small arms and light weapons-

7 (i) used in peace keeping operations, or

8 (ii) seized, collected or destroyed during peace keeping operations
9 in Nigeria and in the ECOWAS or AU region.

10 (2) For the purpose of implementing the provisions of sub section
11 (1) of this section-

12 (a) the Armed Forces, the Police and any other security agency
13 engaged in peace keeping operations shall-

14 (i) prior to the commencement of the operation, submit to the
15 National Centre a register or record of small arms and light weapons to be
16 used in the operation, and

17 (ii) after the operation, submit to the National Centre a register or
18 record of small arms and light weapons used in the operations or seized,
19 collected or destroyed during the operations;

20 (b) the National Centre may at any time necessary, request from the
21 Armed Forces, the Police or any other security agency engaged in peace
22 keeping operations, a register or record of small arms and light weapons to
23 be used, used, seized, collected or destroyed during the operations;

24 (c) a register of small arms and light weapons used by arms bearing
25 agencies shall be forwarded to the National Centre quarterly; and

26 (d) a list of ammunitions before and after a peace keeping mission
27 by arms bearing agencies shall be forwarded to the National Centre.

28 19. The National Centre shall establish a National Small Arms
29 Registry to be managed by an arms Registrar who shall-

30 (a) keep, maintain and update, from time to time, the Registers

1 established under this Act;

2 (b) transmit the Registers to the secretariat of the ECOWAS in
3 accordance with the provisions of ECOWAS Convention; and

4 (c) carry out any other responsibility in respect of small arms and light
5 weapon record and documentation in the Nigeria.

6 PART V - CONTROL OF THE MANUFACTURE OF SMALL ARMS
7 AND LIGHT WEAPONS

8 20.-(1) The National Centre shall-

9 (a) control the manufacture of small arms and light weapons in
10 Nigeria;

11 (b) regulate the activities of local and artisanal small arms and light
12 weapons manufacturers; and

13 (c) adopt strategies and policies for the reduction or limitation of the
14 manufacture of small arms and light weapons so as to control the local
15 manufacture as well as their market within ECOWAS.

16 (2) The National Centre shall prepare and maintain an exhaustive list
17 of local manufacturers of small arms and light weapons and ensure their
18 registration in the Register of Small Arms and Light Weapons established
19 under section 17 of this Act.

20 21. The National Centre shall not grant a request for the manufacture
21 of small arms and light weapons except the manufacturer gives information
22 relating to-

23 (a) details of the arms to be manufactured and the quantity, exact type
24 and kind of arms using ECOWAS classification system, including all serial
25 numbers and other markings;

26 (b) the procedure for marking and entering details of each small arm
27 and light weapon into the Register of Small Arms and Light Weapons
28 established under section 17 of this Act; and

29 (c) information on the storage and management of the small arms and
30 light weapons after manufacture.

Control of the
manufacture of
small arms and
light weapons

Measures for
the control of
manufacture of
small arms and
light weapons

- 1 22.-(1) The National Centre shall exchange with other ECOWAS, ^{Tracing}
2 AU and UN State Parties, information on-
- 3 (a) illegal small arms and light weapons;
4 (b) seized small arms and light weapons; and
5 (c) trafficking in weapons that contravene international law or the
6 internal laws of the States in which the operations take place, including
7 condemnation of the person or institution implicated, sanctions, disposal,
8 destruction methods and neutralization.
- 9 (2) The National Centre shall, in the case of other small arms and
10 light weapons, exchange the following data on a regular basis with the
11 bodies mentioned in subsection (1) of this section-
- 12 (a) manufacture, marking system and techniques used, and
13 authorized manufacturers;
14 (b) transfers, exports to and imports from all other states, and
15 transits;
16 (c) information available concerning national legislation, existing
17 practices and controls, authorized dealers and brokers; and
18 (d) existing stockpiles, management, inventory, security, surplus,
19 loss, theft and destruction.
- 20 (3) The National Centre may initiate a tracing request through
21 ECOWAS, AU or UN in relation to small arms and light weapons found
22 within Nigeria that it considers to be illegal.
- 23 (4) A request by the National Centre for assistance in tracing illegal
24 small arms or light weapons shall contain sufficient information, including-
- 25 (a) information describing the illegal nature of the small arms and
26 light weapons, its legal justification and circumstances under which the
27 small arms and light weapons were found;
28 (b) marking, type, caliber and other relevant information; and
29 (c) intended use of the information being sought.
- 30 (5) Where the National Centre receives through the ECOWAS, AU

1 or UN request for assistance in tracing illegal small arms and light weapons
2 found in the requesting member state, the National Centre shall acknowledge
3 its receipt within a reasonable time frame.

4 (6) A request from a member state received under subsection (5) of
5 this section shall contain the information set out in subsection (4) of this section
6 and any other information as may be specified by the National Centre.

7 (7) The National Centre shall provide reliable responses to tracing
8 requests made by other member states within 1 month from the date of receipt
9 of the request.

10 (8) In responding to a tracing request, the National Centre shall
11 provide all available information sought by the requesting member state that is
12 relevant for the purposes of tracing illegal small arms and light weapons.

13 (9) The National Centre may seek additional information from the
14 requesting member state where a tracing request does not contain the
15 information required under this section

16 PART VI - MISCELLANEOUS

17 23.-(1) Any person in possession of firearms or ammunition without a
18 licence shall on conviction be liable to 2 years imprisonment or a fine of not
19 less than N1,000,000.00 or both where the person has no previous criminal
20 record.

21 (2) Any person with previous criminal records found in possession of
22 firearms without a licence shall on conviction be liable to 5 years imprisonment
23 without fine.

24 (3) Where a person commits an act of violence with a firearm that is
25 not licenced such person shall on conviction be liable to 6 years imprisonment.

26 (4) A person who commits an offence under this Act for which no
27 penalty is prescribed shall be liable on conviction to not less than 1 year
28 imprisonment or a fine of not less than N500,000.00 or both.

29 24.-(1) The National Centre shall, in the interest of promoting peace,
30 design public and community education and awareness programmes at

Offences and
penalties

Public education
and awareness
programme

1 national, state and local levels in order to involve Nigerians in the efforts to
2 control the proliferation of small arms and light weapons.

3 (2) The National Centre shall, in pursuance of subsection (1) of
4 this section, develop and partner with civil society organizations at national,
5 state and local levels, including women, youth and other organisations, for
6 better information and public awareness on the danger of proliferation of
7 small arms and light weapons.

8 25. The President may give to the National Centre such directives
9 of a general nature or relating specifically to matters of policy, with regards
10 to the exercise of the functions of the National Centre as he may consider
11 necessary and the National Centre shall comply with the directives.

Directives of
the President

12 26. The National Centre may make regulations and issue
13 guidelines as are necessary or expedient for the effective and efficient
14 implementation of the provisions of this Act.

Regulations

15 27. As from the commencement of this Act, the Presidential
16 Committee for the Control of Small Arms and light Weapons (PRESCOM)
17 constituted by the President is dissolved.

Dissolution of
the Presidential
Committee for
the Control of
Small Arms and
Light Weapons

18 28.-(1) The dissolution of PRESCOM as specified in section 27 of
19 this Act shall not affect anything done or purported to have been done by the
20 PRESCOM.

Savings and
transitional
provisions

21 (2) The right, interest, obligation, proceedings, assets and liability
22 of the PRESCOM existing before the commencement of this Act shall by
23 virtue of this Act be deemed to be that of the National Centre, to the extent
24 that they are not inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act.

25 (3) Any reference to the PRESCOM or any person under its control
26 or a document issued in the name of the PRESCOM shall be read, unless the
27 context otherwise requires, as a reference to the National Centre established
28 under this Act.

29 29. In this Act-

Interpretation

30 "ammunition" means devices designed to be shot or projected through the

- 1 means of firearms, including-
- 2 (a) cartridges,
- 3 (b) projectiles and missiles for light weapons, and
- 4 (c) mobile containers with missiles or projectiles for anti-aircraft or
- 5 anti-tank single action systems;
- 6 "AU" means the African Union;
- 7 "Convention" means the Economic Community of West African States
- 8 Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, their Ammunition and Other
- 9 Related Materials, done at Abuja on 14th June, 2006;
- 10 "ECOWAS" means the Economic Community of West African States;
- 11 "illicit" means all that is carried out in violation of this Act and the Convention;
- 12 "light weapons" means portable arms designed to be used by several persons
- 13 working together in a team and include notably-
- 14 (a) heavy machine guns,
- 15 (b) portable grenade launchers, mobile or mounted,
- 16 (c) portable anti-aircraft cannons,
- 17 (d) portable anti-tank cannons, non-recoil guns,
- 18 (e) portable anti-tank missile launchers or rocket launchers, and
- 19 (f) mortars with a caliber of less than one hundred millimeters;
- 20 "marking" means inscriptions permitting the identification of arms covered by
- 21 this Act and the Convention;
- 22 "muzzle-loading firearm" means firearms into which the projectile and usually
- 23 the propellant charge is loaded from the muzzle of the gun, including Dane-
- 24 guns, Flint-lock guns and Cap-guns;
- 25 "National Centre" means National Centre for the Control of Small Arms and
- 26 Light Weapons established under section 3 of this Act;
- 27 "other related materials" means all components, parts or spare parts for small
- 28 arms or light weapons or ammunition necessary for its functioning; or any
- 29 chemical substance serving as active material used as propelling or explosive
- 30 agent;

- 1 "small arms" means arms used by one person and include-
- 2 (a) firearms and other destructive arms or devices such as an
- 3 exploding bomb, an incendiary bomb or a gas bomb, a grenade, a rocket
- 4 launcher, a missile system or landmine,
- 5 (b) revolvers and pistols with automatic loading,
- 6 (c) rifles and carbines,
- 7 (d) machine guns,
- 8 (e) assault rifles, and
- 9 (f) light machine guns;
- 10 "small arms and light weapons" includes ammunition and other related
- 11 materials;
- 12 "tracing" includes the systematic monitoring of the movement of small arms
- 13 and light weapons and their ammunition and other related materials, from
- 14 the manufacturer until the end user, with a view to helping members states or
- 15 competent authorities to detect illegal manufacture and trading; and
- 16 "weapons of categories 1, 2 and 3" means light weapons, small arms and
- 17 ammunition, respectively.

18 30. This Bill may be cited as the Control of Small Arms and Light Short title

19 Weapons Bill, 2021.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

*(This memorandum does not form part of the Bill but is intended
to explain its purport)*

This Bill seeks to provide for the control of small arms and light weapons in Nigeria and the establishment of National coordination body at ONSA to coordinate and implement activities to combat the problem of the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in Nigeria in line with the UN, AU, ECOWAS Convention and other international instruments and Protocols on small arms and light weapons.

