REPORTING PRACTICE SUMMARY - 2020

Australia’s reporting changed in its 2020 annual report. It utilized the ATT reporting template and did not submit an UNROCA report as it did for its 2019 report.

Australia continued to report Authorized Numbers and Values of major conventional weapons and SALW exports. Unlike in its 2019 report, it also reported values of major conventional weapons exports.

Australia reported Numbers of major conventional weapons and small arms imports, though it did not specify whether they were actual or authorized.

Australia continued to provide aggregated numbers of SALW exports, as it did in its 2019 report. It did provide disaggregated information on small arms imports, after not doing so in its 2019 report. Information was disaggregated by exporting state and number of items.
GOOD PRACTICES

Australia provided descriptions and comments for all imports of major conventional weapons and provided descriptions for all imports of SALW.

Australia provided the number of authorizations (permits granted) as well as the number of items included in its exports of SALW. It supplied this in a table added to the reporting template.

Australia specified in some places where information was withheld for ‘commercial sensitivity/national security-related’ reasons.

TRANSFER SUMMARY - 2020: EXPORT DATA

• Australia reported exports to 23 countries and territories. Of these, ten were States Parties, four were Signatories and five were non-members (India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and Sri Lanka).1
• Australia reported the export of 84 major conventional weapons items, worth AU$659m (US$454m),2 covering four categories. In terms of value, the majority of these were armoured combat vehicles (88.7 per cent), manned combat aircraft (7.8 per cent) and missiles and missile launchers (missiles etc.) (3.4 per cent).
• In terms of value, the main importers of major conventional weapons from Australia were New Zealand (87.9 per cent), the United States (7.7 per cent) and Chile (3.3 per cent).
• Australia reported the export of 1,764 SALW items from 149 authorizations granted, with a total value of AU$4.5m (US$3.1m). Australia did not disaggregate data by weapons sub-category and only provided a total value for these exports.
• In terms of numbers, the main importers of small arms from Australia were New Zealand (22.4 per cent), Canada (18.8 per cent) and People’s Republic of China (15.3 per cent).

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

Australia continued to provide aggregated numbers and values of exports of SALW, making it impossible to determine weapons sub-categories.

Australia could provide more descriptions and comments on the nature of exports of conventional arms and SALW.

Australia indicated that some information was withheld for specific transfers, but failed to tick the box indicating this was the case on the front page of its report.

TRANSFER SUMMARY - 2020: IMPORT DATA

• Australia reported imports from four countries. Of these, three were ATT States Parties and one was a Signatory.
• Australia reported the import of 148 major conventional weapons items, covering four categories.3 Of these, the majority were large-calibre artillery systems (85.1 per cent), manned combat aircraft (8.1 per cent) and armoured combat vehicles (6.8 per cent).
• In terms of numbers, the main exporters of major conventional weapons to Australia were the United States (93.2 per cent), Germany (6.8 per cent).
• Australia reported the import of 1,620 SALW items, covering five sub-categories. Of these, the majority were revolvers and self-loading pistols (71.1 per cent), rifles and carbines (25.3 per cent) and portable anti-tank guns (2.7 per cent).
• In terms of numbers, the main exporters of SALW to Australia were Germany (71.1 per cent), the United States (26.1 per cent) and Sweden (2.7 per cent).

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1 Australia also reported arms exports to four non-UN members (Christmas Islands, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island and Taiwan).
3 Australia also reported imports of missiles, etc., from the United States, but withheld the number of items; therefore, the actual number is likely higher.