

**Dutch arms export policy in 2013**

Report on the export of military goods  
from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation  
and the Minister of Foreign Affairs

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## 1. Introduction

The present report on Dutch arms export policy in 2013 is the seventeenth annual report drawn up in accordance with the policy memorandum on greater transparency in the reporting procedure on exports of military goods of 27 February 1998 (Parliamentary Papers, 22 054, no. 30). The report comprises:

- a profile of the Dutch defence and security-related industry;
- an overview of the principles and procedures of Dutch arms export policy;
- a description of developments relating to transparency;
- a description of developments within the EU relevant to Dutch arms export policy;
- a summary of the role and significance of the Wassenaar Arrangement;
- a description of developments relating to dual-use goods;
- a description of efforts in the field of arms control, with specific reference to the problem of small arms and light weapons.

*Appendix 1* to the report lists the values of export licences issued in 2013 by category of military goods and by country of final destination. *Appendix 2* shows the trend in Dutch arms exports for the period 2004-2013. *Appendix 3* provides an overview of licences worth over €2 million issued for dual-use items with a military end use. *Appendix 4* contains an overview of licences issued for the transit of military goods to third countries. *Appendix 5* lists the denial notifications issued by the Netherlands to EU partners. These notifications are shared among partners in accordance with Article 4 of Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment, formerly the EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports. *Appendix 6* provides an overview of the sale of surplus defence equipment in 2013. *Appendix 7* lists the government's letters to and responses to written questions from the House of Representatives concerning Dutch arms export policy in 2013. Finally, *Appendix 8* contains letters from the government to the House of Representatives expediting the notification of several high-value licences.

## 2. The Dutch defence and security-related industry

With very few exceptions, the Dutch defence and security-related industry consists mostly of civil enterprises and research institutions with divisions specialising in military production. The sector provides over 14,000 jobs and consists of 451 dedicated companies, almost 300 of which are actively involved in the defence and security-related industry. It is characterised by high-tech production, frequent innovation and a highly educated workforce, a combination that guarantees high-quality products that are also popular in foreign markets. Exports account for no less than 70% of turnover, while 32% of the jobs in the sector can be classified as research and development (R&D). Over 60% of the people employed in the sector are qualified at HBO (higher professional education) level or above. The sector is therefore of great economic importance and possesses a strong innovative capability. It not only contributes directly to equipping the Dutch army but also to the operational

capabilities of the Dutch armed forces through its close co-operation with the four armed forces services. By extension, it enhances the standing and effectiveness of the Netherlands' contributions to international military missions.

Based on the operational interests and requirements of the Defence organisation, the government's policy is aimed at positioning the Netherlands' defence and security-related industry and knowledge institutions in such a way that they are able to make a high-quality contribution to Dutch security. This will also enhance their competitiveness in the European and international markets and within supply chains. To this end, Dutch companies are involved in national military tenders either directly or, where possible, indirectly through industrial participation. This policy is described in the Defence Industry Strategy (DIS) that was presented to the House of Representatives in December 2013.<sup>1</sup>

Because the domestic market is too small to support the available expertise, the government also encourages the Dutch defence and security-related industry to participate in international cooperation in the field of defence equipment. This has led to the establishment of commercial relationships with enterprises from various other countries, including Germany, the US, the UK and Belgium. This also involves joint commitments relating to systems maintenance and subsequent delivery of components. Co-operation also plays an important role in supplying to third countries. The scope for Dutch companies to enter into long-term international cooperative arrangements therefore depends in part on the transparency and consistency of Dutch arms export policy.

The government regards the export activities of the defence and security-related industry as a prerequisite for preserving the Netherlands' knowledge base in this area. This does not alter the fact that limits must be imposed on these activities in the interests of strengthening the international rule of law and promoting peace and security. The government believes that, within these limits, the sector should be allowed to meet other countries' legitimate requirements for defence equipment. In light of these circumstances, the Dutch defence and security-related industry has pursued a policy of increasing specialisation. Companies that focus on exporting military products mostly manufacture high-tech components and subsystems. However, the maritime sector remains able to carry out all production stages from the drawing board to the launch, thus contributing to Netherlands' export of complete weapon systems.

The most recent quantitative data on the defence and security-related industry were made available on a voluntary basis by the companies concerned in the context of a study carried out by Triarii at the request of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and were communicated to the House of Representatives by letter of 4 June 2012.<sup>2</sup> The key figures are as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> House of Representatives, 2013-2014, 31 125, no. 20.

<sup>2</sup> House of Representatives, 2013-2014, 31 125, annexe to no. 11.

**Table 1: The Dutch defence and security-related industry in figures**

Number of companies	451
Defence and security-related turnover in 2010	€3.1 billion
Defence and security-related turnover as a percentage of total turnover	7%
Value of defence and security-related exports	€2.18 billion
Number of jobs in the defence and security-related industry	14,242
Number of those jobs in the field of R&D	4,554

Source: *Triarii 2012*

For a number of years, the Netherlands has counted approximately 450 companies – mostly small and medium-sized enterprises – that are engaged or plan to engage in military production. In this context, it is important to note that military production is defined as production in response to domestic and foreign defence and security orders and not as the production of goods that require an export license under the Strategic Goods (Import and Export) Decree. This explains the potential discrepancy between the abovementioned value of defence and security-related exports and the total value of export licences issued.

On average, Dutch military production accounts for an estimated total turnover of €3.1 billion per year. This represents an average share of approximately 7% of the total turnover of the companies and organisations concerned. Most of them therefore focus primarily on developing their civilian activities, and only a few concentrate almost exclusively on the defence market. Military exports account for approximately €2.18 billion of the total exports of these companies and organisations. The development of advanced knowledge that goes hand-in-hand with military production enables them to innovate products and also forms an important source of military spin-offs and civilian spill-overs. Most companies report being active in the aerospace sector, followed by the maritime sector, the command, control and communications sector and the information technology sector.

### **3. Instruments and procedures of Dutch arms export policy**

Export licences for military goods are issued on the basis of the General Customs Act (*Algemene Douanewet*) and the associated export control regulations. Companies or persons wishing to export goods or technology that appear on the Common Military List of the European Union<sup>3</sup> must apply to the Central Import and Export Office (CDIU) for an export licence. The CDIU is part of the Groningen branch of the Tax and Customs Administration, which in turn falls under the Ministry of Finance. On matters relating to military export licences, which are issued on behalf of Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, it receives its instructions from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In principle, licence applications for the export of military goods to NATO and EU member states and

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<sup>3</sup> Official Journal of the European Union No. C107 of 9 April 2014, available at: [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52014XG0409\(01\)&from=EN](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52014XG0409(01)&from=EN)

countries on a similar footing (Australia, Japan, New Zealand and Switzerland) are processed by the CDIU, on the basis of a procedure formulated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During the year under review, an exception to this rule applied to Cyprus and Turkey. Applications for exports to these two countries – and all other countries – are submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for decision. In order to verify the compatibility of such applications with Common Position 2008/944/CFSP, which defines the EU's common rules for the export of military technology and equipment, the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation seeks foreign policy guidance from the Minister of Foreign Affairs. This guidance plays a key role in the final decision whether or not to issue an export licence.

In the case of applications for exports to developing countries that appear on the DAC list of ODA recipients,<sup>4</sup> the Minister of Foreign Affairs consults with the Directorate-General for International Cooperation (DGIS).

In the case of licence applications for the export of surplus military equipment of the Dutch armed forces, the Minister of Defence notifies the House of Representatives in advance and, if necessary, on a confidential basis. The disposal of such equipment is subject to the regular licensing procedure, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs assesses these transactions against the criteria of Dutch arms export policy, just as it does in the case of commercial export transactions.

### ***Transit***

Following an amendment to the Import and Export Act in 2001, the classification and assessment procedures of Dutch arms export policy can in certain cases be extended to the transit of military goods through Dutch territory. These transit control procedures have since undergone a number of modifications. Until 30 June 2012, companies seeking to forward military goods to or from Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland or an EU or NATO member state via the Netherlands were only subject to a reporting requirement. Since 1 July 2012, this reporting requirement has been replaced by a licensing requirement in cases where a transit shipment to or from one of the aforementioned countries is transhipped in the Netherlands. This applies, for example, when a shipment is transferred from a ship to a train, but also when goods are transferred from one aircraft to another. If no goods are transhipped, transit shipments to or from Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland or an EU or NATO member state are subject only to a reporting requirement. The authorities use these reports to build up a picture of the nature and volume of military goods that pass through the Netherlands in transit. On the basis of this information, moreover, they can decide to impose a licensing requirement on a transit shipment that would not normally be subject to such a requirement. This may happen, for example, if there are indications that the country of origin did not check the goods or if the stated destination of a shipment appears to change during transit. Transit shipments to and from countries other than those mentioned above are always subject to mandatory licensing.

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<sup>4</sup> A list of countries that receive official development assistance (ODA), drawn up by the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

#### 4. Principles of the arms export policy

Licence applications for the export of military equipment are assessed on a case-by-case basis against the eight criteria of Dutch arms export policy, with due regard for the nature of the product, the country of final destination and the end user. These eight criteria were initially defined by the European Councils of Luxembourg (1991) and Lisbon (1992) and were subsequently incorporated in the EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports (1998). On 8 December 2008 the Council of the European Union decided to transform the ten-year-old Code of Conduct into Common Position 2008/944/CFSP defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment.<sup>5</sup> The criteria read as follows:

1. Respect for the international obligations and commitments of Member States, in particular the sanctions adopted by the UN Security Council or the European Union, agreements on non-proliferation and other subjects, as well as other international obligations.
2. Respect for human rights in the country of final destination as well as respect by that country of international humanitarian law.
3. Internal situation in the country of final destination, as a function of the existence of tensions or armed conflicts.
4. Preservation of regional peace, security and stability.
5. National security of the Member States and of territories whose external relations are the responsibility of a Member State, as well as that of friendly and allied countries.
6. Behaviour of the buyer country with regard to the international community, as regards in particular to its attitude to terrorism, the nature of its alliances and respect for international law.
7. Existence of a risk that the military technology or equipment will be diverted within the buyer country or re-exported under undesirable conditions.
8. Compatibility of the exports of the military technology or equipment with the technical and economic capacity of the recipient country, taking into account the desirability that states should meet their legitimate security and defence needs with the least diversion of human and economic resources for armaments.

The above-mentioned criteria, along with the mechanism for information sharing, notification and consultation that applies when a country is considering an export licence application for a destination for which another member state has previously denied a similar application, continue to form the basis of Common Position 2008/944/CFSP. However, the transformation of the Code of Conduct into the Common Position has also broadened its scope. Brokering, transit, intangible forms of technology transfer and production licences have been brought within the ambit of the Common Position in cases where they are subject to mandatory licensing in a member state.

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<sup>5</sup> Official Journal of the European Union No. L 335 of 13 December 2008, p. 99ff., available at: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:335:0099:0103:EN:PDF> .

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Iceland, Montenegro and Norway have officially endorsed the criteria and principles of the Common Position. In addition, Norway shares information regarding licence application denials with the EU.

It goes without saying that the Netherlands fully observes all arms embargoes imposed by the UN, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the EU. An up-to-date overview of national measures implementing UN and EU sanctions, including arms embargoes, is available on the government's internet portal.<sup>6</sup> In addition to the information that appears in this overview, it should be noted that an OSCE embargo against 'forces engaged in combat in the Nagorno-Karabakh area' has been in force since 1992, in accordance with a decision of the Committee of Senior Officials – the predecessor of the Senior Council – of 28 February 1992.

## **5. Transparency in the arms export policy**

The Netherlands maintains a high level of transparency in its arms export policy. The government publishes information on licences issued in annual reports, six-monthly reports and online monthly summaries; most other countries only issue annual reports, which are often more general in nature. In accordance with an undertaking given by the Minister of Foreign Affairs during a debate on the foreign affairs budget in December 1997, the government presented its policy memorandum on greater transparency in the reporting procedure on exports of military goods to the House of Representatives in February 1998 (Parliamentary Papers, 22 054, no. 30). The present report concerning 2013 is the 17th public report on this subject to have appeared since. It is based on the value of the licences issued by category of military goods and by country of final destination. In order to further enhance the transparency of the figures, the categories of goods are specified for each country of destination. For the purpose of illustrating the overall trend, the consolidated figures for 2013 and the figures for the first and second half of 2013 are all presented separately. Information on Dutch licence denials reported to EU partners in the framework of Common Position 2008/944/CFSP has also been included (see Appendix 5).

In addition to the present report on Dutch exports of military goods in 2013, information on Dutch arms export policy is also available through other sources. For instance, the CDIU has published a *User Guide on Strategic Goods and Services* online.<sup>7</sup> This user guide is designed for individuals, companies and organisations with a professional interest in the procedures governing the import and export of strategic goods. It contains information on the relevant policy objectives and statutory provisions and procedures, as well as a wealth of practical information. The user guide, which is regularly updated in the light of national and international developments, is thus a valuable tool for increasing awareness of this specific policy area.

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<sup>6</sup> See: <http://www.government.nl/issues/international-peace-and-security/compliance-with-international-sanctions> . Due to the online availability of up-to-date information on this issue, the present annual report no longer contains an annexes listing arms embargoes in force during the year under review.

<sup>7</sup> See: <http://www.government.nl/issues/export-controls-of-strategic-goods/documents-and-publications/directives/2012/04/12/user-guide-on-strategic-goods-and-services.html>



The government's internet portal also contains other information on the export and transit of strategic goods, such as the present annual report, important information on all licences issued for the export of military goods and monthly summaries containing key data on the transit of military goods through Dutch territory. These data are derived from notifications submitted to the CDIU under the reporting requirement for such transit shipments. The portal also contains monthly summaries of all licences issued for military goods, all licences issued for dual-use goods and all incoming notifications regarding the transit of military goods. As in recent years, data on transit licences issued have been included in the present annual report (Appendix 4). More and more countries are starting to publish public annual reports, but thanks to its provision of data on licence application denials and monthly summaries the Netherlands is still at the forefront when it comes to transparency.

Since 2012, the government notifies the House of Representatives about licences for the permanent export of complete systems worth over €2 million to countries other than Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland and EU or NATO member states within two weeks of deciding to issue them. These notifications, which may or may not be confidential, are accompanied by an explanatory note. In 2013 the government submitted 10 such notifications. The relevant letters appear in Appendix 8.

## 6. Dutch arms exports in 2013

The total value of licences issued in 2013 was €963.5 million. This is similar to the previous year, when the figure was €941.03 million. The following table provides a regional breakdown of licences issued in 2013.

**Table 2: Regional breakdown of licences issued in 2013**

Region	Value of licences issued (in € millions)	Share of total (%)
Asia	456.31	47.09
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.2	0.02
Europe	93.71	9.67
Middle East	106.8	11.59
North America	123.77	12.77
South America	18.69	1.93
Other NATO	163.97	16.92
Other	0.05	0.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>963.5</b>	

Among the top five of countries of final destination in terms of total export licence values, Indonesia takes first place with a value of over €350 million. This is chiefly attributable to a single licence for the supply of parts, equipment, training and technology for the local completion of frigates for the Indonesian navy. The government informed the House of Representatives of the issue of this licence through the accelerated notification procedure (House of Representatives, 2012-2013, 22 054, no.

223. See also Appendix 8). Second place is occupied by 'Other NATO', with a value of almost €164 million. This is largely accounted for by global licences for transactions involving various cooperation programmes for the production of military equipment, such as the NH-90 helicopter and the Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile. The United States is in third place, with a value of almost €110 million. As in previous years, this is mostly accounted for by licences to supply components for fighter aircraft and parts for air defence missile launch systems. Fourth place is occupied by Oman, with a value of over €70 million. This is chiefly attributable to a licence for the supply of parts for radar and C3 systems to a Singapore-based shipyard that is building patrol vessels for the Omani navy. The government informed the House of Representatives of the issue of this licence through the accelerated notification procedure (House of Representatives, 2012-2013, 22 054, no. 213. See also Appendix 8). Fifth place, finally, is occupied by Singapore, with a value of €54 million. This is almost entirely accounted for by two licences relating to the supply of surveillance radar systems and Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) systems to the Singapore navy. The government informed the House of Representatives of the issue of these licences through the accelerated notification procedure (House of Representatives, 2012-2013, 22 054, no. 227. See also Appendix 8).

The total value of export licences for military goods accounted for just over 0.22% of the total value of Dutch exports in 2013 (€433.8 billion). To put this percentage in an international perspective, it is important to note that both the Dutch private sector and the Dutch government are subject to mandatory licensing for the export of military goods. Only the equipment of Dutch military units that is sent abroad for exercises or international operations is exempt from mandatory export licensing. Unlike in some other countries, the sale of surplus defence equipment to third countries is thus included in the figures for the Netherlands.

## **7. EU co-operation**

EU co-operation on export controls for conventional weapons takes place mainly in the Council Working Party on Conventional Arms Exports (COARM). Representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs participate in COARM meetings on behalf of the Netherlands. In COARM, member states share information on their arms export policies in the framework of the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and seek to better co-ordinate those policies and the relevant procedures. In so doing, they promote policy harmonisation and work towards creating a level playing field. The above-mentioned activities are based on Common Position 2008/944/CFSP defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment, which was adopted by the Council on 8 December 2008.<sup>8</sup>

The COARM meetings at the beginning of 2013 focused chiefly on preparations for the final negotiations on the UN Arms Trade Treaty. In addition, member states discussed several specific destinations (countries), and the resulting exchange of information contributed to a more focused export policy. In 2013 the Netherlands continued to push for further harmonisation between EU

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<sup>8</sup> See: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:335:0099:0103:EN:PDF> .

member states as regards the implementation of arms export policy. Greater transparency between member states with regard to licence denials is part of this process, as are efforts to promote the sharing of information on licences issued in respect of certain sensitive destinations. For further information on the Netherlands' ambitions and recent initiatives regarding the harmonisation of arms export policy in the EU, see the letter to parliament from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of 3 July 2014 (ref. Minbuza 2014.185039).

On 21 January 2014 the EU published its 15th annual report on activities undertaken by the EU and its member states in the framework of the implementation of Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP,<sup>9</sup> which includes an overview of the subjects discussed in COARM. The report also contains detailed statistical data on exports of military equipment by the EU member states in 2012. For each country of destination it provides information on the exporting country, the number and value of licences issued and licence denials. The information is classified according to the categories in the Common Military List and is also set out per region and worldwide. Since exports in support of international missions (UN missions) in embargoed countries often raise questions, the report includes separate tables summarising exports to such missions. Finally, it lists the number of brokering licences issued and denied and the number of consultations initiated and received by EU partners.

In 2012 the total value of export licences issued by EU member states was €39.9 billion. France was the largest exporter, accounting for €13.7 billion. The Netherlands was in eighth place with €941 million. The following table lists the total value of licences issued in 2012 by country, as well as each country's share of the total.

**Table 3: European arms exports in 2012**

Country	Value of licences issued (in € millions)	Share of total (%)
France	13,760	34.52
Spain	7,694	19.30
Germany	4,704	11.80
Italy	4,160	10.44
UK	2,664	6.68
Austria	1,554	3.90
Belgium	967	2.43
Netherlands	941	2.36
Sweden	882	2.21
Poland	633	1.59
Bulgaria	349	0.88
Greece	340	0.85

<sup>9</sup> See: [http://eeas.europa.eu/non-proliferation-and-disarmament/arms-export-control/docs/15\\_annual\\_report\\_en.pdf](http://eeas.europa.eu/non-proliferation-and-disarmament/arms-export-control/docs/15_annual_report_en.pdf).

Hungary	269	0.68
Czech Republic	265	0.67
Denmark	222	0.56
Romania	179	0.45
Slovakia	73	0.18
Finland	58	0.15
Portugal	52	0.13
Ireland	47	0.12
Lithuania	20	0.05
Malta	9	0.02
Slovenia	9	0.02
Luxembourg	4	0.01
Estonia	3	0.01
Latvia	0.3	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,863</b>	

The EU's annual report further indicates that member states issued a total of 47,812 licences and that 408 licence applications were denied and reported. The number of licence denials is similar to previous years (402 in 2011, 400 in 2010, 406 in 2009, 329 in 2008 and 425 in 2007). The number of consultations between EU member states regarding licence denials was 123, which represents a rise in relation to 2011 (107). In 2013 the Netherlands was involved in a total of seven consultations. Three of these were initiated by the Netherlands, and on four occasions the Netherlands was consulted by other member states.

## 8. The Wassenaar Arrangement

At multilateral level, developments in the field of arms exports are discussed in the framework of the Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies (WA). In the year under review, 41 countries, including the United States, Russia and all EU member states with the exception of Cyprus,<sup>10</sup> participated in this forum, which owes its name to the town where the negotiations to establish the arrangement were conducted under the chairmanship of the Netherlands. It is estimated that these countries jointly account for over 90% of global military exports.

The aim of the WA, as stated in the 'Initial Elements',<sup>11</sup> is to contribute to regional and international security and stability. This is achieved through regular information sharing on the export to third countries of arms and goods that can be used for military ends. The ultimate goal is to promote greater knowledge and a stronger sense of responsibility in the national assessment of licence

<sup>10</sup> In 2009, only Cyprus was not yet a partner due to Turkish objections.

<sup>11</sup> The 'Initial Elements' can be consulted on the website of the Wassenaar Arrangement, at: <http://www.wassenaar.org>.

applications for the export of such goods. After all, more information will enable the participating states to assess more accurately whether the build-up of military resources is having a destabilising effect in certain countries or regions. If so, they should exercise greater restraint when considering licence applications for these destinations.

In addition to a list of conventional and non-conventional dual-use goods that applies to the Netherlands on the basis of the EU Dual-Use Regulation, the Wassenaar Arrangement maintains a list of military goods that are to be subject to export controls. Any revision of the WA list results in the amendment of the EU list of military goods. As regards Dutch export controls on military goods, the Strategic Goods Implementing Regulations refer directly to the most recent EU list of military goods.

In 2013 the debate on the proposed best practice guidelines continued, as did the debate on new technologies and new challenges in the field of export control. For example, the Expert Group discussed many proposals for changes and additions to the control lists. Those on which it reached agreement were adopted by the Plenary without further discussion. However, the Plenary expressly paused to consider the addition to the control list of certain surveillance and intelligence tools (hardware, software and technology), including Internet Protocol (IP) network surveillance systems not intended for Quality of Service (QoS) applications. The Wassenaar Arrangement thereby did what it could to respond to concerns about the disproportionate or even illegal use of tapping and tracking tools by repressive regimes.

Further information on the best practice guidelines, the WA's principles and goals and current developments is available on the WA's website at: <http://www.wassenaar.org>. This website also grants access to the organisation's public documents.

## **9. Export controls on dual-use goods**

During a meeting between the Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation and the Minister of Defence, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation on arms export policy on 5 July 2012, the House of Representatives indicated that it would like to receive more information on export control policy and developments in the field of dual-use goods. This section briefly examines the main policy principles and key developments in the relevant export control regimes and the EU Council Working Party on Dual-Use Goods.

### **Council Working Party on Dual-Use Goods**

On 7 November 2011 the European Commission presented a proposal amending several provisions in the EU Dual-Use Regulation in order to make it possible in future to amend the list of goods that appears in the regulation's annex by means of a delegated act. At present such amendments are carried out via the ordinary legislative procedure, which is very time consuming. The various export control regimes are responsible for maintaining their own lists of goods, so it makes sense to consolidate these separate lists in Annex I of the regulation by means of a delegated act. In 2013

the Working Party on Dual-Use Goods repeatedly discussed the proposal and came to an agreement with the European Parliament on its wording. The amended Regulation was published on 12 June 2014. The Working Party also discussed the European Commission's Green Paper on the further development of the EU's export control policy. In this framework the Netherlands has repeatedly drawn attention to the further harmonisation of export control policy in order to create a level playing field.

### **Nuclear Suppliers Group**

At its plenary meeting in Christchurch in July 2010, the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), a group that seeks to contribute to the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, decided to initiate a comprehensive review of its control lists. Both these lists – a list of goods specifically designed or adapted for nuclear use and a list of goods that could be used for nuclear purposes but are chiefly used for other ends – had hardly been revised since their inception in 1975 and 1991, despite the numerous technological developments that have occurred in the meantime, including in the field of nuclear applications. The Dedicated Meeting of Technical Experts (DMTE), which was established especially for this purpose, was chaired by the Netherlands. At the NSG's plenary meeting in Prague in June 2013, the DMTE's activities were brought to a successful conclusion and the group was disbanded. In addition, at the request of the Netherlands, the NSG Guidelines were amended to expand the role of physical protection in relation to the export of nuclear goods.

### **Australia Group**

The Australia Group (AG), which chiefly seeks to prevent the proliferation of chemical and biological weapons, meets in Paris every June. In 2013 the AG's agenda was dominated by concerns about Syria's chemical weapons programme, as it had been during the previous year. This resulted in the expansion of the list of goods and chemicals that are subject to an export ban or mandatory licensing under the EU's sanctions regulation on Syria. After the Netherlands subjected an additional list of chemicals to mandatory licensing by means of a ministerial order restricting the export of dual-use goods to Syria on 1 April 2013, the AG followed suit in June. On 23 July 2013, at the initiative of the Netherlands, the list of chemicals was added to the EU's sanctions regulation.

### **Missile Technology Control Regime**

The Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) is an export control regime that focuses on delivery systems (e.g. ballistic missiles and unmanned aerial vehicles) for weapons of mass destruction. The chairmanship of the regime, which rotates between the participating states, passed from Germany to Italy in 2013. At the MTCR's 2013 plenary meeting in Rome the participating states agreed to amend the regime's list of controlled goods. The MTCR continues to regard the missile programmes of Iran and North Korea, as well as Syria's activities in this area, with concern.

All three regimes – the NSG, the AG and the MTCR – have addressed the issues of brokering and transit. Based in part on UN Security Council Resolution 1540, states must operate effective export controls, including controls on transit and brokering. The EU member states have already implemented their obligations in this regard by amending the 2009 EU Dual-Use Regulation. The regimes are also discussing the possibility of adding new members.

## **10. Arms control**

The issue of arms control includes a number of topics that are relevant to arms export policy, including activities relating to small arms and light weapons, the UN Arms Trade Treaty and the UN Register of Conventional Arms.

### **Cluster munitions**

On 23 February 2011 the Netherlands ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions, which accordingly entered into force for our country on 1 August 2011. As of June 2014, 84 states are party to the convention (one more than in June 2013) and 29 other countries have signed but not yet ratified it. A ban prohibiting financial institutions from investing directly in cluster munitions has been in force in the Netherlands since 1 January 2013.<sup>12</sup>

The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross have described the convention as a new norm of international humanitarian law. The Dutch government endorses this view. The Netherlands has pushed for the universalisation of the convention in the appropriate multilateral forums, such as the UN General Assembly. From 9 to 13 September 2013, it also took part in the Fourth Meeting of States Parties in Lusaka, where agreement was reached on the establishment of a permanent office in support of the states parties' implementation efforts.

### **Landmines**

In 2013 the Netherlands chaired the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, which operates under the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention ('Ottawa Convention'). In this capacity it presided, for example, over meetings at which states parties' requests for extensions on mine clearance deadlines were discussed. The Netherlands also participated in the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties in Geneva in December 2013 and the intersessional meeting in May 2013. The meeting of the states parties focused on national efforts in the area of treaty compliance, mine clearance, victim assistance, universalisation, cooperation and technical assistance.

The Netherlands is also a member of the Friends of the Chair, a group of countries actively involved in the preparations for the Third Review Conference of the Ottawa Convention in Mozambique in June 2014. In 2013, as in previous years, the Netherlands spent approximately € 15 million on demining projects around the world, making it one of the largest donors in this area.

### **Small arms and light weapons (SALW)**

The Netherlands is strongly committed to preventing the uncontrolled spread of SALW and related ammunition. Its efforts are aimed at reducing the numbers of victims of armed violence, armed

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<sup>12</sup> See: <http://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten-en-publicaties/kamerstukken/2012/03/21/kamerbrief-over-uitwerking-van-het-verbod-op-directe-investeringen-in-clustermunities.html> (in Dutch).

conflicts and gun crime and increasing security and stability. This is a prerequisite for sustainable development and the attainment of poverty reduction goals.

Tackling SALW-related problems is a key issue in the field of arms control. In recent years it has been dominated by multilateral efforts, on the one hand, and attempts to deal with these problems in the framework of more wide-ranging security projects focusing on civilian security, on the other.

These multilateral efforts have produced numerous international and regional agreements, such as the UN Programme of Action on SALW (2001) and the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development (2006). In 2013 the Netherlands continued to contribute actively to their development and implementation. In doing so it cooperated closely with local and regional NGOs and research institutes in such places as Libya, Central America and Somalia.

– **UN Programme of Action**

The UN Programme of Action obliges states to pursue active policies in the field of SALW at national, regional and international level. This includes developing and implementing relevant legislation, the destruction and secure storage of surplus arms and ammunition, improved cooperation between states – for example in relation to marking and tracing illegal arms – and assisting and supporting countries and regions that lack the capacity to implement the measures set out in the programme.

The biennial meeting of the states parties to the UN Programme of Action will take place in 2014. The Netherlands started preparing for this meeting in 2013 and plans to draw attention to the link between wide-ranging security programmes, such as Security Sector Reform (SSR) and Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR), and SALW-related problems, as well as to other issues that have not yet been included in the programme, such as ammunition.

The Netherlands is also contributing €500,000 to the UN Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR). The purpose of this fund is to help countries sign, ratify and eventually implement the UN Arms Trade Treaty, implement the UN Programme of Action and identify and enhance synergies between these two instruments.

– **EU**

EU member states report annually on national activities aimed at implementing Council Joint Action 2002/589/CFSP on the European Union's contribution to combating the destabilising accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons. These national reports and reports on relevant EU activities are combined in a joint annual report to which the Netherlands contributes every year. In 2013, in the run-up to the biennial meeting of states parties to the UN Programme of Action, the Netherlands highlighted the importance of European cooperation in combating the uncontrolled spread of SALW.

– **OSCE**

The Netherlands supports the efforts of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) to tackle the illegal spread and accumulation of SALW and is committed to sharing



information on SALW in the framework of the OSCE Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons.<sup>13</sup>

### **UN Arms Trade Treaty**

In March 2013 the final diplomatic conference on the UN Arms Trade Treaty took place in New York, concluding a preparatory process that started in 2006. The government is pleased with the result and believes that the treaty makes an important contribution to international peace and stability. A crucial factor is that it obliges states parties to set up an export control system for conventional arms, which will force countries around the world to make responsible decisions regarding the export of military goods that fall under the scope of the treaty. The treaty's assessment criteria are similar to several that already apply under the EU's Common Position on arms exports: compliance with international embargoes, no cooperation in violations of international humanitarian law, respect for human rights and mitigation of the risk of diversion of conventional arms to the illicit market or for unauthorised use.

The Netherlands played an active role in the negotiations, for example by chairing one of the two subcommittees that formulated the draft text of the treaty. In addition, the government frequently consulted NGOs and the Dutch private sector regarding the Netherlands' objectives for the negotiations. For more information, see the government's letter to parliament on the UN Arms Trade Treaty of 24 April 2013 (Parliamentary Papers, 22 054, no. 220).

The treaty was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 2 April 2013. It was opened for signature on 3 June 2013, at which time it was signed by the Netherlands and 66 other UN member states. In the autumn of 2013, together with its European partners, the Netherlands undertook a series of démarches to urge countries that had not yet signed the treaty to do so. As a result, the treaty currently has 118 signatories. Approximately 30 countries have ratified the treaty, which will enter into force following the 50th ratification. The Netherlands is currently still in the process of ratifying the treaty. The government hopes to complete this process as soon as possible, in co-operation with both chambers of Parliament.

The Netherlands continues to work towards the entry into force and implementation of the UN Arms Trade Treaty along the lines described in the government's letter to parliament on the universalisation and implementation of the UN Arms Trade Treaty of 26 November 2013 (Parliamentary Papers, 22 054, no. 235). In particular, it argues that the EU should take steps to renew its commitment to universalisation in the coming year, for example by undertaking a new series of démarches towards countries that voted in favour of the treaty but have not yet signed it. In countries where the Netherlands has a diplomatic presence, it will support and participate in the EU's démarches, as it has done in recent months. Where appropriate, it will reiterate the call to sign and/or ratify the treaty during foreign visits by politicians and high-ranking officials.

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<sup>13</sup> See: <http://www.osce.org/fsc/68450>.

Among its various measures in support of implementation, the Netherlands contributes to a special UN fund that supports the treaty's implementation in developing countries. It also plays an active role in the development and implementation of EU activities in this area.<sup>14</sup>

### **Transparency in armaments and the UN Register of Conventional Arms**

Every year, the UN Register of Conventional Arms, which was established in 1991 at the initiative of the Netherlands and several other countries, provides information on the countries of export, transit (where relevant) and import of military goods, as well as on the volume of the flow of goods, which are divided into the following categories: I. battle tanks; II. armoured combat vehicles; III. large-calibre artillery systems; IV. combat aircraft; V. attack helicopters; VI. warships; and VII. missiles and missile launchers.

Since its inception, 173 countries, including the Netherlands, have at some time submitted reports to the register. This includes all the major arms-producing, exporting and importing countries. The ambition remains to achieve universal and consistent participation. The UN Register of Conventional Arms is an instrument that promotes transparency, thereby preventing excessive stockpiling of conventional weapons.

The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) is responsible for compiling the data submitted by the member states. In 2013 it received 58 national reports. That is six more than in 2012, which may point to a reversal of the negative trend whereby the number of countries contributing to the register was steadily declining. The effectiveness of the register stands or falls with universal participation. The Netherlands therefore considers it of great importance that countries submit their annual reports, even if these take the form of 'nil reports' because they did not import or export any goods in one or more of the above-mentioned categories during the year in question.

At the same time, the functioning of the register should be reviewed in light of the UN Arms Trade Treaty, which also establishes a reporting requirement for arms exports in the categories listed in the register, as well as for small arms and light weapons. It is important to maintain the register for those countries that are not yet ready to accede to the Arms Trade Treaty. However, a situation in which countries are required to submit double reports should be prevented.

In 2013 the Netherlands once again submitted the UN General Assembly resolution on transparency in armaments, which can traditionally count on the support of a large majority of UN member states. The resolution ensures that a group of government experts meet once every three years to evaluate and further develop the register. Since 2013 the Netherlands is no longer a member of this group, which operates on the principle of rotation so that other countries can also participate in its work.

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<sup>14</sup> See: [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L\\_.2013.341.01.0056.01.ENG](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2013.341.01.0056.01.ENG).

**UN-based legislative transparency**

From 2002 to 2005 the Netherlands submitted the UN General Assembly resolution on national legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology every year, and from 2007 onwards it has done so every other year. The resolution urges UN member states to share information on their national legislation in the field of arms exports.

In 2013 the UN General Assembly only passed the resolution after a vote, as countries that do not support the UN Arms Trade Treaty objected to several references to the Treaty. In the framework of the resolution an electronic UN database has been established to store and provide access to legislative texts and other information shared by the participating states. It currently contains contributions from 54 countries, including the Netherlands. This database may also eventually be linked to the reporting requirements under the UN Arms Trade Treaty.

## **Appendix 1: Overview of the value of licences issued in 2013 for the permanent export of military goods by category of goods and by country of final destination**

### **Methodology**

The values reported below are based on the value of the licences for the permanent export of military goods issued during the period under review. The licence value represents the maximum export value, although this may not necessarily correspond to the value of the exports actually realised at the time of publication. Licences for temporary export have been disregarded in these figures, on the grounds that they are subject to a requirement to reimport. This usually concerns shipments for demonstration or exhibition purposes. On the other hand, licences for trial or sample shipments are included in the figures because they are not subject to this requirement due to the nature of the exported goods. Licences for goods that are returned abroad following repair in the Netherlands are similarly not included in the reported figures. In such cases, however, the goods must have been part of a prior shipment from the Netherlands, whose value will therefore have been reflected in a previous report. Without these precautions, the inclusion of such 'return following repair' licences would lead to duplication. Licences whose validity has been extended do not appear in the figures for the same reason. This also applies to licences that are replaced for reasons such as a recipient's change of address. However, if the value of the extension or replacement licence is higher than that of the original licence, the surplus will obviously be reported.

For the purpose of classifying licence values for individual transactions by category of military goods, it was necessary in many cases to record additional spare parts and installation costs as part of the value of the complete system. Licence values for the initial delivery of a system are often based on the value of the contract, which may also cover such elements as installation and a number of spare parts. The value of licences for the subsequent delivery of components is included in categories A10 and B10. Finally, for the purpose of classifying licence values by category of military goods, a choice had to be made regarding the classification of subsystems. It was decided to differentiate according to the extent to which a subsystem could be regarded as being stand-alone or multifunctional. This has a particular bearing on the classification of export licences for military electronics. If such a product is suitable solely for maritime applications, for example, the associated subsystems and their components appear in category A10, as components for category A6 (warships). However, if such a product is not obviously connected to one of the first seven subcategories of main category A, the associated subsystems and their components appear in subcategory B4 or B10.

2013 (first half)

**Table 1: Value (in € millions) of licences issued for the permanent export of military goods during the first half of 2013, by category<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Category A: 'Weapons and ammunition'</b>	<b>Value</b>
1. Tanks	0.04
2. Armoured vehicles	-
3. Large-calibre weapons (> 12.7 mm)	-
4. Fighter aircraft	0.01
5. Attack helicopters	-
6. Warships	-
7. Guided missiles	0.02
8. Small calibre weapons ( $\leq$ 12.7 mm)	0.19
9. Ammunition and explosives	2.66
10. Parts and components for 'Weapons and ammunition' <sup>2</sup>	651.09
<b>Total for Category A</b>	<b>654.01</b>

<b>Category B: 'Other military goods'</b>	<b>Value</b>
1. Other military vehicles	0.15
2. Other military aircraft and helicopters	-
3. Other military vessels	-
4. Military electronics	27.95
5. ABC substances for military use	-
6. Military equipment for exercises	0.02
7. Armour-plating and protective products	7.51
8. Military auxiliary and production equipment	0.14
9. Military technology and software	9.56
10. Parts and components for 'Other military goods' <sup>3</sup>	89.97
<b>Total for Category B</b>	<b>135.30</b>

<b>Total for Categories A and B</b>	<b>789.31</b>
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**Table 2: Value (in € millions) of licences issued for the permanent export of military goods during the first half of 2013, by country of destination**

Country of destination	Category A	Breakdown	Category B	Breakdown	Total
Afghanistan	-	-	0.01	B4	0.01
Algeria	0.44	A10	3.18	B4, B9	3.62
Austria	0.02	A8	-	-	0.02
Bonaire	0.02	A8, A10	-	-	0.02
Brunei	0.54	A10	-	-	0.54
Bulgaria	-	-	0.08	B10	0.08
Canada	12.68	A7, A8, A10	-	-	12.68
Chile	1.74	A10	0.25	B1, B10	1.99
Colombia	0.05	A10	-	-	0.05
Czech Rep.	0.05	A8, A9, A10	-	-	0.05
Denmark	0.16	A8, A10	0.10	B10	0.26
Egypt	0.45	A10	6.09	B4	6.54
Finland	0.06	A9, A10	-	-	0.06
France	2.33	A1, A8, A10	2.73	B4, B10	5.06
Germany	13.43	A3, A8, A9, A10	16.24	B4, B7, B9, B10	26.67
India	0.01	A10	0.24	B9, B10	0.25
Indonesia	345.02	A10	0.76	B9	345.78
Israel	-	-	0.05	B9	0.05
Italy	1.04	A8, A9	0.43	B10	1.47
Japan	0.45	A10	0.02	B10	0.47
Jordan	0.95	A9, A10	-	-	0.95
Malaysia	0.47	A10	-	-	0.47
Norway	0.16	A8, A10	0.51	B7, B10	0.67
Oman	63.00	A10	4.00	B4	67.00
Pakistan	-	-	0.27	B4, B10	0.27
Poland	0.06	A8, A9, A10	-	-	0.06
Qatar	0.06	A10	-	-	0.06
Russia	-	-	0.17	B10	0.17
Rwanda	-	-	0.14	B1, B10	0.14
Singapore	2.50	A10	0.02	B10	2.52
South Africa	0.03	A10	0.01	B10	0.04
South Korea	1.30	A10	3.64	B9, B10	4.94
Spain	0.82	A8, A10	-	-	0.82
Sweden	0.68	A8, A9, A10	0.25	B4, B10	0.93
Switzerland	2.62	A1, A8, A9, A10	2.47	B4, B10	5.09

<b>Taiwan</b>	20.17	A10	0.15	B9	20.32
<b>Thailand</b>	0.88	A10	0.01	B10	0.89
<b>Turkey</b>	3.20	A9, A10	1.68	B4, B9, B10	4.88
<b>UAE</b>	-	-	0.22	B10	0.22
<b>UK</b>	2.77	A8, A9, A10	0.21	B10	2.98
<b>US</b>	100.01	A4, A8, A9, A10	3.24	B4, B6, B8, B9, B10	103.25
<b>Other NATO<sup>4</sup></b>	75.83	A10	88.12	B4, B9, B10	163.95
<b>Countries with export licence values below €10,000<sup>5</sup></b>					
Argentina, Australia, Estonia, Hungary, Portugal and Romania	0.01	A8, A9, A10	0.01	B4, B10	0.02
<b>Total</b>	<b>654.01</b>		<b>135.30</b>		<b>789.31</b>

**Explanatory notes for Tables 1 and 2 concerning the first half of 2013:**

<sup>1</sup> Because all values are rounded off to two decimal points, subcategories with a value below €10,000 are not listed separately in Tables 1 and 2.

<sup>2</sup> As usual, subcategory A10 (Parts and components for 'Weapons and ammunition') primarily concerns the supply of components for fighter aircraft and attack helicopters to the manufacturers of such systems in the United States and the supply of components for tanks and other military combat vehicles to the German manufacturer of such systems. During the period under review, moreover, a licence worth €345 million was issued for the supply of parts, equipment, training and technology for frigates for the Indonesian navy. These parts also fall under subcategory A10.

<sup>3</sup> During the period under review, subcategory B10 (Parts and components for 'Other military goods') once again encompasses a large number of smaller shipments of electronic parts for military systems and parts for military aircraft and vehicles.

<sup>4</sup> The heading 'Other NATO' generally relates to export licences for components falling under subcategory A10 for which several NATO members (excluding Turkey) qualify as countries of final destination. In practice, such licences are used to supply components to manufacturers that want to be able to supply from stock to the NATO customers listed as end users on the licence.

<sup>5</sup> In the Netherlands the export of pistols and rifles for sport or hunting is also subject to mandatory licensing. If they are scheduled to remain abroad for an extended period, such firearms require a permanent export licence, even if they are accompanied by the owner. Some of the exports to countries of destination listed in the table as accounting for total export licence values below €10,000 involve transactions of this nature.

2013 (second half)

**Table 1: Value (in € millions) of licences issued for the permanent export of military goods during the second half of 2013, by category<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Category A: 'Weapons and ammunition'</b>	<b>Value</b>
1. Tanks	-
2. Armoured vehicles	4.44
3. Large-calibre weapons (> 12.7 mm)	0.07
4. Fighter aircraft	-
5. Attack helicopters	-
6. Warships	-
7. Guided missiles	-
8. Small calibre weapons (≤ 12.7 mm)	0.25
9. Ammunition and explosives	0.73
10. Parts and components for 'Weapons and ammunition' <sup>2</sup>	62.96
<b>Total for Category A</b>	<b>68.45</b>

<b>Category B: 'Other military goods'</b>	<b>Value</b>
1. Other military vehicles	1.97
2. Other military aircraft and helicopters	-
3. Other military vessels	1.35
4. Military electronics	64.44
5. ABC substances for military use	-
6. Military equipment for exercises	2.21
7. Armour-plating and protective products	1.06
8. Military auxiliary and production equipment	-
9. Military technology and software	5.21
10. Parts and components for 'Other military goods' <sup>3</sup>	29.50
<b>Total for Category B</b>	<b>105.74</b>

<b>Total for Categories A and B</b>	<b>174.19</b>
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**Table 2: Value (in € millions) of licences issued for the permanent export of military goods during the second half of 2013, by country of destination**

Country of destination	Category A	Breakdown	Category B	Breakdown	Total
Algeria	-	-	20.11	B4, B10	20.11
Argentina	0.04	A10	-	-	0.04
Australia	0.05	A3, A10	-	-	0.05
Brunei	-	-	0.05	B9	0.05
Bulgaria	0.02	A3	-	-	0.02
Burkina Faso	-	-	0.01	B7	0.01
Canada	1.21	A10	-	-	1.21
Chile	0.09	A10	0.13	B6, B9	0.22
China	11.85	A10	-	-	11.85
Colombia	5.00	A10	0.39	B9	5.39
Czech Rep.	0.06	A8, A9, A10	-	-	0.06
Denmark	0.04	A8, A10	0.02	B10	0.06
Estonia	3.50	A2	1.98	B4	5.48
Finland	-	-	0.14	B4, B10	0.14
France	0.54	A8, A9, A10	2.14	B4, B9, B10	2.68
Germany	17.26	A8, A9, A10	1.30	B6, B10	18.56
Greece	0.03	A10	0.08	B10	0.11
India	0.04	A10	0.45	B9, B10	0.49
Indonesia	0.15	A9	4.44	B4, B9, B10	4.59
Israel	-	-	0.11	B9, B10	0.11
Italy	0.04	A8, A10	-	-	0.04
Japan	0.01	A10	-	-	0.01
Jordan	0.94	A2	-	-	0.94
Lithuania	-	-	0.02	B7	0.02
Malaysia	0.10	A10	-	-	0.10
Norway	0.13	A8, A9, A10	-	-	0.13
Oman	-	-	3.38	B4, B9, B10	3.38
Pakistan	-	-	0.05	B10	0.05
Poland	4.38	A8, A9, A10	-	-	4.38
Portugal	-	-	0.03	B10	0.03
Qatar	-	-	0.86	B6, B10	0.86
Russia	-	-	1.00	B7	1.00
Saudi Arabia	0.05	A10	1.76	B6, B10	1.81
Singapore	2.40	A9, A10	48.87	B4, B9, B10	51.27
South Korea	0.01	A10	1.27	B10	1.28

<b>Spain</b>	1.29	A8, A10	0.02	B10	1.31
<b>Sweden</b>	0.60	A8, A9, A10	0.13	B10	0.73
<b>Switzerland</b>	0.33	A8, A9, A10	1.08	B10	1.41
<b>Taiwan</b>	0.19	A10	9.91	B10	10.10
<b>Turkey</b>	0.94	A8, A10	4.01	B3, B9, B10	4.95
<b>UAE</b>	1.15	A10	-	-	1.15
<b>UK</b>	0.09	A8, A9	0.24	B4, B9	0.33
<b>US</b>	4.90	A8, A10	1.73	B4, B7, B9, B10	6.63
<b>Venezuela</b>	11.00	A10	-	-	11.00
<b>Other NATO<sup>4</sup></b>	-	-	0.02	B10	0.02
<b>Countries with export licence values below €10,000<sup>5</sup></b>					
Aruba, Austria Hungary, Philippines, Romania, Slovenia, South Africa, Tanzania and Thailand	0.02	A8, A9, A10	0.01	B10	0.03
<b>Total</b>	<b>68.45</b>		<b>105.74</b>		<b>174.19</b>

**Explanatory notes for Tables 1 and 2 concerning the second half of 2013:**

<sup>1</sup> Because all values are rounded off to two decimal points, subcategories with a value below €10,000 are not listed separately in Tables 1 and 2.

<sup>2</sup> As usual, subcategory A10 (Parts and components for 'Weapons and ammunition') primarily concerns the supply of components for fighter aircraft and attack helicopters to the manufacturers of such systems in the United States and the supply of components for tanks and other military combat vehicles to the German manufacturer of such systems.

<sup>3</sup> During the period under review, subcategory B10 (Parts and components for 'Other military goods') once again encompasses a large number of smaller shipments of electronic parts for military systems and parts for military aircraft and vehicles.

<sup>4</sup> The heading 'Other NATO' generally relates to export licences for components falling under subcategory A10 for which several NATO members (excluding Turkey) qualify as countries of final destination. In practice, such licences are used to supply components to manufacturers that want to be able to supply from stock to the NATO customers listed as end users on the licence.

<sup>5</sup> In the Netherlands the export of pistols and rifles for sport or hunting is also subject to mandatory licensing. If they are scheduled to remain abroad for an extended period, such firearms require a permanent export licence, even if they are accompanied by the owner. Some of the exports to countries of destination listed in the table as accounting for total export licence values below €10,000 involve transactions of this nature.

2013 (whole year)

**Table 1: Value (in € millions) of licences issued for the permanent export of military goods in 2013, by category<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Category A: 'Weapons and ammunition'</b>	<b>Value</b>
1. Tanks	0.04
2. Armoured vehicles	4.44
3. Large-calibre weapons (> 12.7 mm)	0.07
4. Fighter aircraft	0.01
5. Attack helicopters	-
6. Warships	-
7. Guided missiles	0.02
8. Small calibre weapons ( $\leq$ 12.7 mm)	0.44
9. Ammunition and explosives	3.39
10. Parts and components for 'Weapons and ammunition' <sup>2</sup>	714.05
<b>Total for Category A</b>	<b>722.46</b>

<b>Category B: 'Other military goods'</b>	<b>Value</b>
1. Other military vehicles	2.12
2. Other military aircraft and helicopters	-
3. Other military vessels	1.35
4. Military electronics	92.39
5. ABC substances for military use	-
6. Military equipment for exercises	2.23
7. Armour-plating and protective products	8.57
8. Military auxiliary and production equipment	0.14
9. Military technology and software	14.77
10. Parts and components for 'Other military goods' <sup>3</sup>	119.47
<b>Total for Category B</b>	<b>241.04</b>

<b>Total for Categories A and B</b>	<b>963.50</b>
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**Table 2: Value (in € millions) of licences issued for the permanent export of military goods in 2013, by country of destination**

Country of destination	Category A	Breakdown	Category B	Breakdown	Total
Afghanistan	-	-	0.01	B4	0.01
Algeria	0.44	A10	23.29	B4, B9, B10	23.73
Argentina	0.04	A10	-	-	0.04
Australia	0.05	A3, A10	-	-	0.05
Austria	0.02	A8	-	-	0.02
Bonaire	0.02	A8, A10	-	-	0.02
Brunei	0.54	A10	0.05	B9	0.59
Bulgaria	0.02	A3	0.08	B10	0.10
Burkina Faso	-	-	0.01	B7	0.01
Canada	13.89	A10	-	-	13.89
Chile	1.83	A10	0.38	B1, B6, B9, B10	2.21
China	11.85	A10	-	-	11.85
Colombia	5.05	A10	0.39	B9	5.44
Czech Rep.	0.11	A8, A9, A10	-	-	0.11
Denmark	0.20	A8, A10	0.12	B10	0.32
Egypt	0.45	A10	6.09	B4	6.54
Estonia	3.50	A2	1.98	B4	5.48
Finland	0.06	A9, A10	0.14	B4, B10	0.20
France	2.87	A1 A8, A9, A10	4.87	B4, B9, B10	7.74
Germany	30.69	A3, A8, A9, A10	17.54	B4, B6, B7, B9, B10	48.23
Greece	0.03	A10	0.08	B10	0.11
India	0.05	A10	0.69	B9, B10	0.74
Indonesia	345.17	A9, A10	5.20	B4, B9, B10	350.37
Israel	-	-	0.16	B9, B10	0.16
Italy	1.08	A8, A9, A10	0.43	-	1.51
Japan	0.46	A10	0.02	B10	0.48
Jordan	1.89	A2, A9, A10	-	-	1.89
Lithuania	-	-	0.02	B7	0.02
Malaysia	0.57	A10	-	-	0.57
Norway	0.29	A8, A9, A10	0.51	B7, B10	0.80
Oman	63.00	A10	7.38	B4, B9, B10	70.38
Pakistan	-	-	0.32	B10	0.32
Poland	4.44	A8, A9, A10	-	-	4.44
Portugal	-	-	0.03	B10	0.03

<b>Qatar</b>	0.06	A10	0.86	B6, B10	0.92
<b>Russia</b>	-	-	1.17	B7, B10	1.17
<b>Rwanda</b>	-	-	0.14	B10	0.14
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	0.05	A10	1.76	B6, B10	1.81
<b>Singapore</b>	4.90	A9, A10	48.89	B10	53.79
<b>South Africa</b>	0.03	A10	0.02	B10	0.05
<b>South Korea</b>	1.31	A10	4.91	B9, B10	6.22
<b>Spain</b>	2.11	A8, A10	0.02	B10	2.13
<b>Sweden</b>	1.28	A8, A9, A10	0.38	B4, B10	1.66
<b>Switzerland</b>	2.95	A1, A8, A9, A10	3.55	B4, B10	6.50
<b>Taiwan</b>	20.36	A10	10.06	B9 B10	30.42
<b>Thailand</b>	0.88	A8, A10	0.02	B10	0.90
<b>Turkey</b>	4.14	A8, A9, A10	5.69	B3, B4, B9, B10	9.83
<b>UAE</b>	1.15	A10	0.22	B10	1.37
<b>UK</b>	2.86	A8, A9, A10	0.45	B4, B9, B10	3.31
<b>US</b>	104.91	A4, A8, A9, A10	4.97	B4, B6, B7, B8, B9, B10	109.88
<b>Venezuela</b>	11.00	A10	-	-	11.00
<b>Other NATO<sup>5</sup></b>	75.83	A10	88.14	B10	163.97
<b>Countries with export licence values below €10,000<sup>6</sup></b>					
Argentina, Aruba, Hungary, Philippines, Romania, Slovenia and Tanzania	0.03	A8, A9, A10	-		0.03
<b>Total</b>	<b>722.46</b>		<b>241.04</b>		<b>963.50</b>

**Explanatory notes for Tables 1 and 2 concerning 2013:**

<sup>1</sup> Because all values are rounded off to two decimal points, subcategories with a value below €10,000 are not listed separately in Tables 1 and 2.

<sup>2,3</sup> For information on key shipments falling under subcategories A10 and B10 during the year under review, see the explanatory notes accompanying the tables concerning the first and second halves of 2013. The values listed for South Africa and Thailand under Category B in the table concerning the whole of 2013 are 0.01 higher than the values listed for these countries in the table concerning the first half of 2013. Although both countries posted values below €10,000 in Category B during the second half of 2013, they jointly account for a licence value of slightly more than €15,000 in subcategory B10. The rounded-off value of 0.02 in the table concerning the whole of 2013 is therefore shared by these two countries.

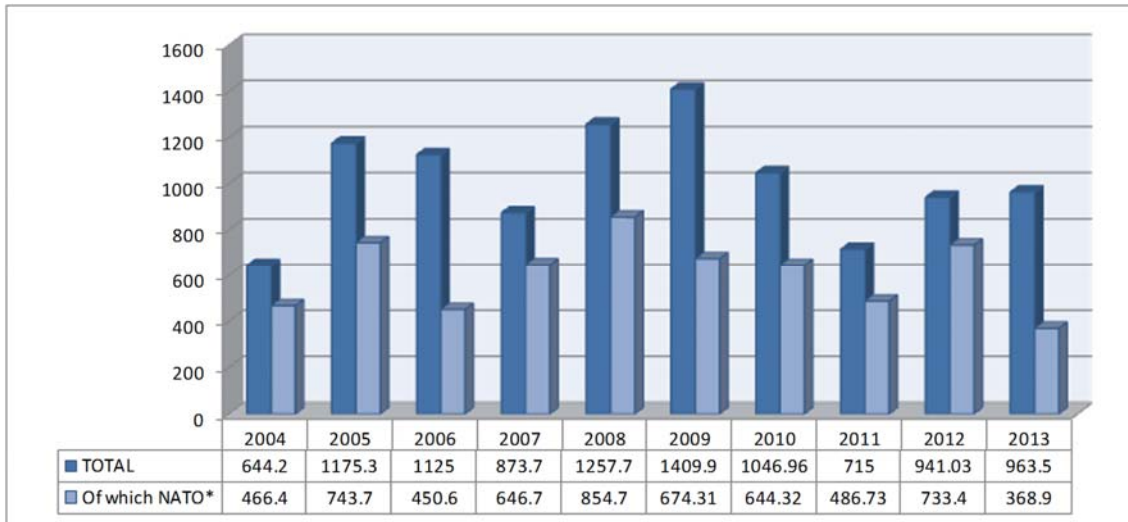
<sup>4</sup> The heading 'Other NATO' generally relates to export licences for components falling under subcategory A10 for which several NATO members (excluding Turkey) qualify as countries of final destination. In practice, such licences are used to supply components to manufacturers that want

to be able to supply from stock to the NATO customers listed as end users on the licence. As explained in previous reports, this heading also covers export licences for goods that are processed in another country before being returned to the Netherlands as their final destination.

<sup>5</sup> In the Netherlands the export of pistols and rifles for sport or hunting is also subject to mandatory licensing. If they are scheduled to remain abroad for an extended period, such firearms require a permanent export licence, even if they are accompanied by the owner. Some of the exports to countries of destination listed in the table as accounting for total export licence values below €10,000 involve transactions of this nature.

## Appendix 2: Dutch arms exports in 2004-2013

### Value of export licences issued in € millions



\* In 2013 the following 28 countries were members of NATO: Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States.

**Appendix 3: Overview of export licences worth over €2 million issued in 2013 for dual-use goods intended for military end use**

Type of equipment <sup>1</sup>	Value (in € millions) <sup>2</sup>	Country of final destination	End user
Image-enhancing tubes for inclusion in night-vision equipment	12.46	South Korea	Ministry of Defence
Image-enhancing tubes for inclusion in night-vision equipment	6.08	India	Ministry of Defence
<b>Total value of licences concerned (in € millions)</b>			<b>18.54</b>

**Explanatory notes:**

<sup>1</sup> Applications for dual-use goods destined for the military, police or security services in the intended country of final destination are assessed against the eight criteria laid down in the EU's Common Position on arms exports.

<sup>2</sup> The amount shown represents the value of licences issued in 2013. Some of the goods in question were not actually delivered in 2013.



**Appendix 4: Value (in € millions) of licences issued in 2013 for the transit of military goods<sup>1</sup>**

Country of destination	Category A	Breakdown	Category B	Breakdown	Total
Belize	0.06	A9			0.06
Chile	1.83	A9			1.83
Curaçao	0.05	A8, A9			0.05
Czech Rep.	0.02	A8			0.02
Ecuador	6.33	A5, A8, A10			6.33
Ethiopia	0.02	A10			0.02
France	16.50	A7			16.50
Germany			0.25	B10	0.25
Indonesia	1.33	A10			1.33
Israel	0.19	A10	0.24	B1	0.43
Kenya	0.09	A9			0.09
Kuwait	0.17	A2, A8, A9	0.40	B1	0.57
Montenegro	0.02	A10			0.02
Nigeria			0.17	B7	0.17
Oman	0.82	A8, A9	0.34	B1, B5, B9	1.16
Paraguay	0.82	A8			0.82
Portugal			0.09	B2	0.09
Qatar	0.48	A8			0.48
Russia	0.03	A9			0.03
Suriname	0.05	A8			0.05
Sweden	0.44	A9			0.44
Thailand	0.83	A8, A10			0.83
Turkey	0.02	A10			0.02
UAE	18.49	A7, A8, A9, A10			18.49
UK	0.09	A9			0.09
Uruguay	0.08	A9			0.08
<b>Countries with licence values under €10,000</b>					
Brazil		A9			
<b>Total</b>	<b>48.76</b>		<b>1.49</b>		<b>50.25</b>

**Explanatory note:**

<sup>1</sup> Transit without transshipment involving allies (EU/NATO+) is subject to a reporting requirement. Information on these reports is available on the government's internet portal at: <http://www.government.nl/export-controls-of-strategic-goods>. More information on the transit licences whose value is listed here is also available there, but in the monthly summaries of military goods rather than in the transit reports.

**Appendix 5: Licence application denials reported in the framework of Common Position 2008/944/CFSP in 2013<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Date of denial</b>	<b>Country of destination</b>	<b>Brief description</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>End user</b>	<b>Reason for denial</b>
05-02-2013	Egypt	Communications systems	Egyptian army	Egyptian army	Criteria 2 and 3
18-02-2013	Saudi Arabia	Ammunition of various calibres	Military Industries Cooperation (MIC)	Ministry of Defence	Criteria 2 and 3
16-04-2013	Saudi Arabia	9mm Luger cartridges	Military Industries Cooperation (MIC)	Ministry of Defence	Criteria 2 and 3

**Explanatory note:**

<sup>1</sup> In the case of dual-use goods destined for the military, police or security services in the intended country of final destination, the Netherlands is also required to report licence application denials to its EU partners.

**Appendix 6: Overview of surplus defence equipment sold by the Netherlands to foreign parties in 2013<sup>1</sup>**

Type of equipment	To/via <sup>2</sup>	Country of final destination	End user
Lynx helicopter components	Swift (Germany)	Germany	Ministry of Defence
Lynx helicopter components	n/a	Denmark	Ministry of Defence
Cheetahs and Flycatchers	n/a	Jordan	Ministry of Defence
120mm ammunition	RWM (Germany)	Singapore	Ministry of Defence
HNLMS Zuiderkruis	Şimşekler (Turkey)	scrapping	n/a
Harpoon missiles	n/a	Belgium	Ministry of Defence
DAF vehicle components	n/a	Rwanda	Rwanda National Police
Leopard 2 tank components	NOVEK (Netherlands)	Germany	Ministry of Defence
F-16 aircraft components	ILN Technologies (US)	US	Unknown <sup>2</sup>
Lynx helicopter components	ZF Luftfahrttechnik	Germany	Ministry of Defence
Lynx helicopter components	NAMSA	Norway	Ministry of Defence
Lynx helicopter components	NAMSA	Portugal	Ministry of Defence
Lynx helicopter components	n/a	South Korea	Ministry of Defence
F-16 aircraft	n/a	Jordan	Ministry of Defence
Medium range anti-tank missiles (MRAT)	n/a	Finland	Ministry of Defence
Leopard 2 tank components	Gunter Langkopf Maschinenbau (Germany)	Canada, Finland and Germany	Ministry of Defence
Leopard 2 tank components	ZF Services Nederland B.V.	Allseas	
Lynx helicopter components	NAMSA	Denmark	Ministry of Defence
Lynx helicopter components	NAMSA	n/a	Ministry of Defence
Assorted army equipment (trucks)	n/a	Estonia	Ministry of Defence

Lynx helicopter components	Aviation Trading (UK)	UK	Ministry of Defence
Alouette helicopter components	AeroXS (US)	US	Unknown <sup>2</sup>
LN-93 INU units	Blue Aerospace (US)	US	Unknown <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total value of contracts</b>			<b>approx. €17 million</b>

**Explanatory notes:**

<sup>1</sup> The amount shown is based on the value of contracts concluded in 2013. Some of the goods in question were not actually delivered in 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Surplus defence equipment is occasionally sold to the original manufacturer. In some cases, it can also be sold through a private company to an end user who is known and approved at the time of sale or to a private company for its own use. Yet another option involves selling to a private company in another EU/NATO+ country without yet knowing the specific final destination and end user of the equipment. In such cases, an International Import Certificate is used to ensure that any attempt to export or re-export the equipment in question will be subject to the control of the EU/NATO+ country concerned.

## **Appendix 7: Overview of letters to the House of Representatives and responses to written questions concerning Dutch arms export policy in 2013**

### **Letters to the House of Representatives**

**18-12-2013, 22 054, no. 238**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation responding to the request of the Committee on Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation to publish the confidential letter on Syria's chemical weapons programme.

**12-12-2013, 22 054, no. 236**, Letter from the Minister of Defence concerning the sale of Gill MRAT systems to Finland.

**26-11-2013, 22 054, no. 235**, Letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the universalisation and implementation of the UN Arms Trade Treaty.

**26-11-2013, 22 054, no. 234**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Indonesia via South Korea.

**11-11-2013, 22 054, no. 233**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the presentation of the report on Dutch arms export policy in 2012.

**30-09-2013, 22 054, no. 232**, Letter from the Minister of Defence on the state of affairs with respect to the sale of F-16 fighter aircraft to Jordan.

**13-08-2013, 22 054, no. 231**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Algeria via China.

**31-07-2013, 22 054, no. 229**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs providing further information on the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Taiwan.

**30-07-2013, 22 054, no. 228**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Taiwan.

**15-07-2013, 22 054, no. 227**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Singapore.

**27-06-2013, 22 054, no. 224**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation responding to questions asked during a meeting with the Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs on the supply of glycol (MEG) to Syria.

**19-06-2013, 22 054, no. 223**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Indonesia.

**06-06-2013, 22 054, no. 222**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation in response to reports in *NRC Handelsblad* and other newspapers that for many years the Netherlands exported a substance to Syria that can be used to manufacture chemical weapons.

**22-05-2013, 22 054, no. 221**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning a licence issued by the Netherlands for the export of military equipment to Algeria via the United Kingdom.

**17-05-2013, 22 054, no. 220**, Letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the Final UN Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty.

**26-04-2013, 22 054, no. 219**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Oman.

**16-04-2013, 22 054, no. 218**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the possible issue of an export licence for Jordan.

**27-03-2013, 22 054, no. 217**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the procedure for issuing export licences and the disposal of surplus defence equipment.

**18-03-2013, 22 054, no. 215**, List of questions and answers regarding the letter from the Minister of Defence of 11 January 2013 concerning the sale of Leopard 2A6 tanks to Krauss-Maffei Wegmann.

**13-03-2013, 22 054, no. 214**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Egypt.

**27-02-2013, 22 054, no. 213**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning a licence worth €60 million issued by the Netherlands for the export of military equipment to Oman.

**25-02-2013, 22 054, no. 212**, Letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs containing an invitation to the Final UN Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty in New York on 18-28 March 2013.

**21-02-2013, 22 054, no. 211**, Letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the Netherlands' aims at the Final UN Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty [on 18-28 March 2013].

**19-02-2013, 22 054, no. 209**, Letter from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation containing an overview of military export licences issued during the first half of 2012.

**14-02-2013, 22 054, no. 208**, Letter from the Minister of Defence concerning the sale of army equipment to Jordan.

**11-01-2013, 22 054, no. 207**, Letter from the Minister of Defence concerning the sale of Leopard 2A6 tanks to Krauss-Maffei Wegmann.

### **Responses to written questions**

19-12-2013, Responses to parliamentary questions, 2013-2014, no. 738: Questions from MPs Harry van Bommel, Jasper van Dijk and Paul Ulenbelt (all Socialist Party) to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Economic Affairs and the Minister of Social Affairs and Employment concerning investments in the nuclear weapons industry (submitted on 17 October 2013).

04-09-2013, Responses to parliamentary questions, 2012-2013, no. 3149: Questions from MP Sjoerd Sjoerdsma (D66) to the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation concerning the supply of glycol to Syria (submitted on 3 September 2013).

15-07-2013, Responses to parliamentary questions, 2012-2013, no. 2778: Questions from MPs Jasper van Dijk and Harry van Bommel (both Socialist Party) to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation concerning arms sales to Indonesia (submitted on 7 June 2013).

19-02-2013, Responses to parliamentary questions, 2012-2013, no. 1339: Questions from MP Jasper van Dijk (Socialist Party) to the Minister of Defence concerning allegations of bribery in a deal to sell frigates to Chile (submitted on 23 January 2013).

**18-02-2013, 22 054, no. 210**, List of 69 responses to questions from the Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation regarding the report on Dutch arms export policy in 2011.

**Appendix 8: Letters sent to the House of Representatives under the accelerated parliamentary notification procedure**

In accordance with *see infra* the letter of 10 June 2011 announcing a stricter arms export policy (Parliamentary Papers, 2010-2011, 22 054, no. 165) and the motion submitted by MP Arjan El Fassed and others on 22 December 2011 on lowering to €2 million the threshold triggering the accelerated parliamentary notification procedure for certain arms export licence applications (Parliamentary Papers, 2011-2012, 22 054, no. 181), the House of Representatives received the following letters in 2013:

<b>Parliamentary Paper</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>
22 054	213	13-02-2013	Oman
22 054	214	05-03-2013	Egypt
22 054	218	28-03-2013	Jordan
22 054	219	10-04-2013	Oman
22 054	221	15-04-2013	Algeria
22 054	223	04-06-2013	Indonesia
22 054	227	15-07-2013	Singapore
22 054	228	30-07-2013	Taiwan
22 054	231	13-08-2013	Algeria
22 054	234	26-11-2013	Indonesia



**Letter of 13 February 2013 from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Frans Timmermans, to the House of Representatives concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Oman**

In accordance with the stricter arms export policy announced by letter of 10 June 2011 (Parliamentary Papers, 2010-2011, 22 054, no. 165) and the motion submitted by MP Arjan El Fassed and others on 22 December 2011 on lowering to €2 million the threshold triggering the accelerated parliamentary notification procedure for certain arms export licence applications (House of Representatives, 2011-2012, 22 054, no. 181), the government wishes to present the following information concerning a licence worth €60 million issued by the Netherlands for the export of military equipment to Oman.

A Dutch company recently obtained an export licence for radar and C3 (command, control and communications) systems and related software. These systems will be installed on patrol vessels that are being built in Singapore by Singapore Technologies Marine for the Omani navy.

The licence application was assessed against the eight criteria of the EU's Common Position on arms exports. The relevant parts of this assessment, which resulted in the approval of the application, are summarised below.

- Criterion 2 (human rights): The human rights situation in Oman raises several concerns, in particular with regard to freedom of assembly and association and freedom of expression. Given the nature of the goods (radar systems) – and the identity of the end user (the Omani navy) – it is unlikely that they will contribute to established human rights violations.
- Criterion 3 (internal conflicts): In 2011 there were several disturbances and clashes between demonstrators and security forces, which resulted in a total of two fatalities. However, subsequent demonstrations have passed off peacefully, in part because the security forces have exercised restraint.

Given the overall attitude of restraint of the security forces, violent escalations are unlikely to occur. Moreover, given the nature of the goods and the identity of the end user, the export of radar and C3 systems is unlikely to contribute to the renewal of internal tensions.

- Criterion 4 (regional stability): With an eye to its economic and security interests, Oman maintains close relations with the US and EU countries. It also plays an active role in combating piracy off the coast of Somalia. Strengthening the Omani navy contributes to the country's efforts in this area.
- Criterion 7 (risk of diversion): Given the identity of the end user (the Omani navy) and the fact that the goods will be shipped to Singapore, where they will be installed in the patrol vessels by Singapore Technologies Marine, there is no risk of diversion.

**Letter of 5 March 2013 from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Frans Timmermans, to the House of Representatives concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Egypt**

In accordance with the stricter arms export policy announced by letter on 10 June 2011 (Parliamentary Papers, 2010-2011, 22 054, no. 165) and the motion submitted by MP Arjan El Fassed and others on 22 December 2011 on lowering to €2 million the threshold triggering the accelerated parliamentary notification procedure for certain arms export licence applications (Parliamentary Papers, 2011-2012, 22 054, no. 181), the government wishes to present the following information concerning a licence worth €6 million issued by the Netherlands for the export of military equipment to Egypt.

A Dutch company recently obtained an export licence for communications systems and related software, which will be installed on Egyptian Navy Fast Missile Craft (ENFMC). These vessels, which were developed and supplied by the US in the framework of its Foreign Military Sales programme, are used to protect Egypt's territorial waters.

The goods will be used to protect Egypt's territorial waters and as part of its efforts to combat piracy in the Red Sea and further afield. Countries in the region (including Israel) will benefit from this, as will the US, the Netherlands and other EU countries. The goods cannot be used to violate human rights.

The licence application was assessed against the eight criteria of the EU's Common Position on arms exports.<sup>15</sup> The relevant parts of this assessment, which resulted in the approval of the application, are summarised below.

– Criterion 2 (human rights):

Egypt is undergoing a turbulent democratic transition. In terms of the human rights situation, there have been some improvements, such as the installation of a civilian government following democratic elections and the conclusion of the constitutional process. Nevertheless, concerns remain, in particular regarding cases of torture, police impunity, heavy-handed action against peaceful demonstrators and violence and intimidation against women.

Given their nature, the goods for which an export licence has been issued cannot be used to violate human rights. Moreover, they are being supplied to the Egyptian navy, which is not involved in established human rights violations, and the security forces will not be able to use them to maintain order during protests.

– Criterion 3 (internal conflicts):

In 2012 Egypt continued its transition towards democracy by holding democratic presidential elections, installing a civilian government and concluding the constitutional process. The political situation in the country nevertheless remains unsettled. As yet, a real political dialogue between the president and parts of the opposition concerning Egypt's political and economic situation is still lacking. At the end of 2012 and the beginning of 2013 large-scale rival demonstrations by opponents and supporters of President Morsi resulted in dozens of fatalities and hundreds of injuries.

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<sup>15</sup> Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment.

The Egyptian navy plays no part in these concerns. Moreover, the goods in question cannot be deployed in internal conflicts and therefore have no potential to exacerbate Egypt's internal situation.

- Criterion 4 (regional stability):

Egypt is trying to play a constructive role in the Middle East peace process. President Morsi has declared that the country will honour its existing peace agreement with Israel. During the Gaza conflict in November 2012 Egypt successfully mediated between Israel and Hamas, which led to a truce between the warring parties. It is also an ally of the US, which approved the export of these complete systems, in the fight against terrorism. The goods will not contribute to destabilisation in the region.

- Criterion 5 (security of the Netherlands and allied countries):

The goods will be deployed at sea for such purposes as patrolling Egypt's territorial waters, combating piracy and controlling maritime traffic. Rather than threatening the security of the Netherlands and its allies, such a deployment is actually in the interests of our country and the wider international community.

**Letter of 28 March 2013 from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Frans Timmermans, to the House of Representatives concerning the possible issue of an export licence for Jordan**

During a meeting with the Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation on Dutch arms export policy on 14 February 2013 (Parliamentary Papers, 22 054, no. 216), we undertook to inform the House of Representatives in writing, in accordance with the accelerated parliamentary notification procedure, of the government's decision whether or not to issue an export licence for the supply of surplus army equipment to Jordan.

We hereby wish to inform you that the application for an export licence for this transaction has not yet been submitted, and it is not expected until the end of the year. At such time, we will inform you in writing, in accordance with the accelerated parliamentary notification procedure that applies in the case of export licences worth €2 million or more, regarding the assessment of the application against the eight criteria of the EU's Common Position on arms exports.

For a detailed explanation of the procedure for selling surplus defence equipment, we refer you to our most recent letter to parliament of 27 March 2013 on the procedure for issuing export licences for military and dual-use goods (Parliamentary Papers, 22 054, no. 217).

**Letter of 10 April 2013 from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Frans Timmermans, to the House of Representatives concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Oman**

In accordance with the stricter arms export policy announced by letter on 10 June 2011 (Parliamentary Papers, 2010-2011, 22 054, no. 165) and the motion submitted by MP Arjan El Fassed and others on 22 December 2011 on lowering to €2 million the threshold triggering the accelerated parliamentary notification procedure for certain arms export licence applications (Parliamentary Papers, 2011-2012, 22 054, no. 181), the government wishes to present the following information concerning a licence worth €4 million issued by the Netherlands for the export of military equipment to Oman.

A Dutch company recently obtained a licence to export a training system and related equipment for the purpose of operating a C2 (command and control) system to Oman. The end user of this system is the Omani navy.

The licence application was assessed against the eight criteria of the EU's Common Position on arms exports.<sup>16</sup> The relevant parts of this assessment, which resulted in the approval of the application, are summarised below.

- Criterion 2 (human rights): The human rights situation in Oman raises several concerns, in particular with regard to freedom of assembly and association and freedom of expression. For example, criticism of the sultan is prohibited and may lead to arrest. Given the nature of the goods (training system) – and the identity of the end user (the Omani navy) – it is unlikely that they will contribute to human rights violations or be used against the civilian population.
- Criterion 3 (internal conflicts): In 2011 there were several disturbances and clashes between demonstrators and security forces, which resulted in a total of two fatalities. Immediately after these events the demonstrators' demands, which focused on socioeconomic and political reforms, were partially met. Demonstrations have since passed off peacefully and the security forces are exercising restraint.

Given the attitude of restraint of the security forces, violent escalations are unlikely to occur. Moreover, given the nature of the goods and the identity of the end user, the export of the training system is unlikely to contribute to the renewal of internal tensions.

- Criterion 4 (regional stability): Oman maintains close economic and security relations with the US and EU countries. It also plays an active role in the combating piracy off the coast of Somalia. Strengthening the Omani navy contributes to the country's efforts in this area.
- Criterion 7 (risk of diversion): Given the nature of the goods and the fact that they are being supplied to the Omani navy, the risk of diversion is very small.

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<sup>16</sup> Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment.

**Letter of 15 April 2013 from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Frans Timmermans, to the House of Representatives concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Algeria via the United Kingdom**

In accordance with the stricter arms export policy announced by letter on 10 June 2011 (Parliamentary Papers, 2010-2011, 22 054, no. 165) and the motion submitted by MP Arjan El Fassed and others on 22 December 2011 on lowering to €2 million the threshold triggering the accelerated parliamentary notification procedure for certain arms export licence applications (Parliamentary Papers, 2011-2012, 22 054, no. 181), the government wishes to present the following information concerning a licence worth €3,100,001 issued by the Netherlands for the export of military equipment to Algeria via the United Kingdom.

A Dutch company recently obtained a licence to export data management systems and related equipment to Algeria. The end user of these systems, which are intended for communications between ships and helicopters, is the Algerian navy.

The licence application was assessed against the eight criteria of the EU's Common Position on arms exports.<sup>17</sup> The relevant parts of this assessment, which resulted in the approval of the application, are summarised below.

- Criterion 2 (human rights): Although the human rights situation in Algeria still raises concerns, several encouraging developments have occurred during the past year. For example, the number of complaints concerning abuse of power by government troops has declined, and the Algerian government has recently permitted several previously banned NGOs (e.g. Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement) to carry out activities in the country. In terms of press freedom, Algeria compares favourably to neighbouring countries. Given the nature of the goods (data management systems) – and the identity of the end user (the Algerian navy) – it is unlikely that they will contribute to human rights violations.
- Criterion 3 (internal conflicts): The recent upheaval in other countries in the region has not spread to Algeria. On 14 April 2011, in response to several demonstrations calling for improvements in socioeconomic conditions, which took place between 6 and 12 February 2011, President Bouteflika announced a series of reforms. The government also amended the country's electoral laws to strengthen parliamentary democracy and lifted the state of emergency that had been in force since 9 February 1992, which had been one of the opposition's key demands. At present the situation in the country is calm.

Algeria has a legitimate need to protect itself against terrorist attacks by radical Islamic organisations such as Al-Qaida au Maghreb Islamique, which is responsible for dozens of fatalities. Algeria has indicated that it is interested in working together with the EU to combat terrorism, and the Netherlands is also cooperating with the country in this area. The goods in question can contribute to these efforts.

- Criterion 4 (regional stability): Algeria's relations with neighbouring Morocco remain fragile. Since 1976 Algeria has supported the Polisario Front independence movement in its fight against Morocco in Western Sahara. Under UN auspices, both parties have been trying to reach agreement on this issue for some time. Algeria's border with Morocco has been closed since 1994, following accusations of Algerian involvement in a terrorist attack on a hotel in

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<sup>17</sup> Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment.

Marrakesh. However, these tensions are of a political nature, and a military escalation is highly unlikely at this time.

**Letter of 4 June 2013 from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Frans Timmermans, to the House of Representatives concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Indonesia**

In accordance with the stricter arms export policy announced by letter on 10 June 2011 (Parliamentary Papers, 2010-2011, 22 054, no. 165) and the motion submitted by MP Arjan El Fassed and others on 22 December 2011 on lowering to €2 million the threshold triggering the accelerated parliamentary notification procedure for certain arms export licence applications (Parliamentary Papers, 2011-2012, 22 054, no. 181), the government wishes to present the following information concerning a licence worth €345 million issued by the Netherlands for the export of military equipment to Indonesia.

A Dutch company recently obtained a licence to export parts, equipment, training and technology for frigates to Indonesia. The end user of these goods is the Indonesian navy. The licence does not apply to complete weapon systems but to parts and subsystems that will be exported partly via a shipyard in Romania and partly directly to a shipyard in Indonesia where the final assembly of the frigates will take place. However, because the supply of the ships falls entirely under the supervision of the Dutch company, the government has decided to report this licence to parliament in accordance with the accelerated notification procedure, although it is not required to do so under the terms of the selection criteria listed in its letter of 10 June 2011.

The licence application was assessed against the eight criteria of the EU's Common Position on arms exports.<sup>18</sup> The relevant parts of this assessment, which resulted in the approval of the application, are summarised below.

- Criterion 2 (human rights): Indonesia, which is an important and respected partner of the Netherlands, is a stable democracy that holds free and fair elections. It has a free press and a dynamic civil society and officially promotes tolerance. The protection of human rights is enshrined in the constitution and in national law, and their observance only rarely raises concerns. Given the nature of the goods – and the identity of the end user – it is unlikely that they will contribute to human rights violations.
- Criterion 3 (internal conflicts): The internal security situation in Indonesia has improved significantly during the past decade. In 2005 the armed conflict in Aceh ended after the Indonesian government and the GAM resistance movement concluded a peace agreement, which has held up ever since. Aceh has since held free and fair elections.

Internal tensions persist in Papua, which occasionally experiences violent incidents. This includes action by the security forces – either in response to attacks by the armed separatist movement Organisasi Papua Merdeka (OPM) or otherwise – tribal conflicts and crime-related violence. The policies of the Indonesian government focus first and foremost on the socioeconomic development of Papua. At the same time, steps are being taken to establish a dialogue with the province's indigenous population.

The goods in question are unlikely to contribute to an increase in internal tensions, not least because the Indonesian navy's resources are not being deployed in this area.

- Criterion 4 (regional stability): Indonesia is involved in several ongoing border disputes. Indonesia and Malaysia are working on a diplomatic solution to their border dispute. Although relations between the two countries are sometimes tense, military escalation remains unlikely.

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<sup>18</sup> Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment.



Other territorial disputes have so far been settled before the International Court of Justice in The Hague (e.g. concerning the Sipadan and Ligitan islands).

- Criterion 7 (risk of diversion): Given the nature of the goods and the fact that they are being supplied to the Indonesian navy, the risk of diversion is negligible.

**Letter of 15 July 2013 from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Frans Timmermans, to the House of Representatives concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Singapore**

In accordance with the stricter arms export policy announced by letter on 10 June 2011 (Parliamentary Papers, 2010-2011, 22 054, no. 165) and the motion submitted by MP Arjan El Fassed and others on 22 December 2011 on lowering to €2 million the threshold triggering the accelerated parliamentary notification procedure for certain arms export licence applications (Parliamentary Papers, 2011-2012, 22 054, no. 181), the government wishes to present the following information concerning a licence worth €52,306,707 million issued by the Netherlands for the export of military equipment to Singapore.

A Dutch company recently obtained two licences to export surveillance radar systems, including NS-106 Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) systems, and related testing and measurement equipment to Singapore. The end user of these goods, which are intended for the protection of Singapore navy vessels, is the Singapore navy.

The licence application was assessed against the eight criteria of the EU's Common Position on arms exports.<sup>19</sup> The relevant parts of this assessment, which resulted in the approval of the application, are summarised below.

- Criterion 2 (human rights): Singapore, which is an important and respected partner of the Netherlands, is a stable democracy that holds free and fair elections. It has a free press and a dynamic civil society. The protection of human rights is enshrined in the constitution and in national law, and their observance rarely raises concerns. Given the nature of the goods – and the identity of the end user – it is unlikely that they will contribute to human rights violations.
- Criterion 3 (internal conflicts): There are no internal conflicts in Singapore in which these goods could be deployed.
- Criterion 4 (regional stability): Singapore maintains good relations with the countries in the region.
- Criterion 7 (risk of diversion): Given the nature of the goods and the fact that they are being supplied to the Singapore navy, the risk of diversion is negligible.

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<sup>19</sup> Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment.

**Letter of 30 July 2013 from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Frans Timmermans, to the House of Representatives concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Taiwan**

A Dutch company recently obtained a licence to export fire control radar systems and related components to Taiwan. This transaction is taking place in the framework of major maintenance on previously supplied systems. Contracts for the one-off supply and subsequent maintenance of these systems were signed at the beginning of the 1980s. The Chinese authorities were notified at the time, and the contracts are therefore compatible with the agreements concluded with the Chinese authorities in the Joint Communiqué of 1 February 1984 (see below). This also applies to the current transaction.

The licence application was assessed against the eight criteria of the EU's Common Position on arms exports.<sup>20</sup> The relevant parts of this assessment, which resulted in the approval of the application, are summarised below.

- Criterion 1 (international obligations): According to this criterion, the receiving country may not be subject to an arms embargo. On 1 February 1984 China and the Netherlands signed a Joint Communiqué in which the Netherlands endorsed the One-China policy and announced that it would no longer approve new licence applications for arms exports to Taiwan.

However, an exception was made for the export of goods needed to maintain and ensure the continued operation of goods previously supplied by Dutch companies on the basis of commitments entered into before the signing of the Joint Communiqué. The current transaction falls under this exception.

- Criterion 2 (human rights): According to this criterion there has to be a direct link between established human rights violations in the country of final destination, the goods in question and the end user of those goods.

Although Taiwan is not allowed to sign international agreements, its constitution and all laws deriving from it guarantee respect for fundamental human rights in Taiwan. Since the Democratic Progressive Party 'took office' in 2000, improving human rights has become a key policy objective and respect for human rights has increased. In spite of this, death penalty executions were recently resumed in Taiwan. The EU has expressed concern at this development.

- Criterion 3 (internal conflicts) and criterion 4 (regional stability): Relations between China and Taiwan remain tense. However, economic ties between both parties have improved in recent years and have helped stabilise their relationship to a certain extent, witness the agreements concluded between Beijing and Taipei. In light of the re-election of Taiwan's 'president,' Ma Ying-jeou, in 2012, it is likely that this policy of economic rapprochement will continue. The present transaction is not expected to have a negative impact on this relationship.
- Criterion 6 (international obligations of Taiwan): Taiwan cannot become a party to international treaties, such as the Biological Weapons Convention, the Chemical Weapons Convention or the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as only states can become parties to such instruments. The EU, including the Netherlands, does not recognise Taiwan as a state. Nevertheless, Taiwan complies with the obligations arising from the above-mentioned international treaties and permits bilateral inspections performed in accordance with the

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<sup>20</sup> Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment.

guidelines of international organisations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

**Letter of 13 August 2013 from the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Frans Timmermans, to the House of Representatives concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Algeria via China**

In accordance with the stricter arms export policy announced by letter on 10 June 2011 (Parliamentary Papers, 2010-2011, 22 054, no. 165) and the motion submitted by MP Arjan El Fassed and others on 22 December 2011 on lowering to €2 million the threshold triggering the accelerated parliamentary notification procedure for certain arms export licence applications (Parliamentary Papers, 2011-2012, 22 054, no. 181), the government wishes to present the following information concerning a licence worth €21,200,000 issued by the Netherlands for the export of military equipment to Algeria.

A Dutch company recently obtained a licence to export radar and C3 (command, control and communications) systems to Algeria via China, where the Algerian navy has ordered three corvettes. The end user of these goods, which are intended for combating terrorism and for national defence, is the Algerian navy. Employees of the Dutch company will partially install the systems in the three corvettes (non-sensitive hardware and software only) in China. The sensitive hardware and software will subsequently be installed in Algeria. This arrangement forms part of the measures that have been taken to prevent the unwanted transfer of knowledge to Chinese companies and government bodies.

The licence application was assessed against the eight criteria of the EU's Common Position on arms exports.<sup>21</sup> The relevant parts of this assessment, which resulted in the approval of the application, are summarised below.

- Criterion 2 (human rights): The Algerian government has the political will to comply with international human rights standards, but human rights violations are still taking place. The authorities are keen to keep tensions between secular and Islamic movements in check, and religion is therefore subject to strict government control. In terms of press freedom Algeria compares favourably to the entire Arab region. Given the nature of the goods (radar and C3 systems) – and the identity of the end user (the Algerian navy) – it is unlikely that they will contribute to human rights violations.
- Criterion 3 (internal conflicts): The recent upheaval in other countries in the region has not spread to Algeria. On 14 April 2011, in response to several demonstrations calling for improvements in socioeconomic conditions, which took place between 6 and 12 February 2011, President Bouteflika announced a series of reforms. The government also amended the country's electoral laws to strengthen parliamentary democracy and lifted the state of emergency that had been in force since 9 February 1992, which had been one of the opposition's key demands. At present the situation in the country is calm.

Algeria has a legitimate need to protect itself against terrorist attacks by radical Islamic organisations such as Al-Qaida au Maghreb Islamique, which is responsible for dozens of fatalities. Algeria has indicated that it is interested in working together with the EU to combat terrorism, and the Netherlands is also cooperating with the country in this area. The goods in question can contribute to Algeria's efforts to combat terrorism at sea.

- Criterion 4 (regional stability): Algeria's relations with neighbouring Morocco remain fragile. Since 1976 Algeria has supported the Polisario Front independence movement in its fight against Morocco in Western Sahara. Under UN auspices, both parties have been trying to reach

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<sup>21</sup> Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment.

agreement on this issue for some time. Algeria's border with Morocco has been closed since 1994, following accusations of Algerian involvement in a terrorist attack on a hotel in Marrakesh. However, these tensions are of a political nature, and a military escalation is highly unlikely.

**Letter of 26 November 2013 from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Frans Timmermans, and the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, to the House of Representatives concerning the issue of a licence for the export of military equipment to Indonesia via South Korea**

In accordance with the stricter arms export policy announced by letter on 10 June 2011 (Parliamentary Papers, 2010-2011, 22 054, no. 165) and the motion submitted by MP Arjan El Fassed and others on 22 December 2011 on lowering to €2 million the threshold triggering the accelerated parliamentary notification procedure for certain arms export licence applications (Parliamentary Papers, 2011-2012, 22 054, no. 181), the government wishes to present the following information concerning a licence worth €3 million issued by the Netherlands for the export of military equipment to Indonesia via South Korea.

A Dutch company recently obtained a licence to export communications systems to Indonesia via South Korea. These systems will be installed in submarines that are being built in South Korea for the Indonesian navy. These submarines will be deployed to protect Indonesia's territorial waters and, in particular, the maritime routes within these waters.

The licence application was assessed against the eight criteria of the EU's Common Position on arms exports.<sup>22</sup> The relevant parts of this assessment, which resulted in the approval of the application, are summarised below.

- Criterion 2 (human rights)

Indonesia, which is an important and respected partner of the Netherlands, is a stable democracy that holds free and fair elections. It has a free press and a dynamic civil society and officially promotes tolerance. The protection of human rights is enshrined in the constitution and in national law, and their observance only rarely raises concerns, for example concerning the protection of religious and other minorities at local level, the situation in Papua, cases of impunity within the security services and disproportionately severe punishments for political activists.

Given their nature, the goods for which the export licence has been issued cannot be used to violate human rights. Moreover, the end user is the Indonesian navy, which is not involved in established human rights violations.

- Criterion 3 (internal conflicts)

The internal security situation in Indonesia has improved significantly during the past decade. In 2005 the armed conflict in Aceh ended after the Indonesian government and the GAM resistance movement concluded a peace agreement, which has held up ever since. Aceh has since held free and fair elections.

Internal tensions persist in Papua, which occasionally experiences violent incidents, including armed attacks by the separatist movement Organisasi Papua Merdeka (OPM), violent conflicts between tribes, and police and military operations against OPM and other alleged insurgents. The police bear primary responsibility for maintaining public order. The policies of the Indonesian government focus first and foremost on improving socioeconomic developments in Papua. At the same time, steps are being taken to establish a dialogue with the province's indigenous population.

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<sup>22</sup> Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment.

The goods in question are intended for the Indonesian navy and are unlikely to contribute to an increase in internal tensions.

- Criterion 4 (regional stability):

Indonesia is involved in several long-term border disputes.

Indonesia and Malaysia are working on a diplomatic solution to their border dispute. Military escalation is highly unlikely, and both countries are cooperating effectively in regional organisations such as ASEAN and APEC. Other territorial disputes have so far been settled before the International Court of Justice in The Hague (e.g. concerning the Sipadan and Ligitan islands).

The border dispute between Indonesia and Timor-Leste is also unlikely to escalate. Both countries are pursuing a legal solution through the East Timor-Indonesia Boundary Committee and the International Court of Justice.