6. What international export control regimes cover military goods?

The Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-use Goods and Technologies is the main vehicle that helps its 33 member countries manage their military goods export restrictions. It includes almost all countries that have meaningful exports of these goods, especially those that manufacture advanced-technology products.

Countries that participate in Wassenaar work to ensure that transfers of conventional arms and dual-use goods do not enhance military capabilities to the point that they undermine regional and international security. Participating countries put measures in place to prevent these items from being diverted to support such capabilities. They also work together to ensure that the Arrangement meets current needs as international thinking on military goods issues evolves.

While Wassenaar leaves individual licensing decisions to each member state and would benefit from more extensive information exchange, it has established a firm basis for future strengthening of its mechanisms. Canada is among the countries pressing for improvements within Wassenaar and other control regimes.

The Wassenaar Arrangement is responsible for developing and updating the International Munitions List of goods that are "specially designed or modified for military use," which are subject to permitting. Wassenaar complements and reinforces other control regimes that address weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. These include international commitments under:

- the Anti-personnel Mines Convention;
- the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty;
- the Missile Technology Control Regime;
- the Australia Group (covering chemical substances and biological agents that could be used in the production of chemical and biological weapons, as well as certain dual-use equipment);
- the Chemical Weapons Convention;
- the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention;
- the Nuclear Suppliers Group;
    as well as many others.