

Arms Trafficking: A View from the Field



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Scale and Scope

- Largely limited—fuels low-intensity conflict (due to lack of resources), but:
 - Arms proliferation leads to more rapid spread of violence and magnifies effects of violence.
 - Greatly complicate efforts to promote sustainable security and development.



Impact in Horn of Africa

- Continued conflict in Somalia.
- Insurgencies in Eastern DRC, Ethiopia, Uganda, Sudan.
- In post-conflict countries can lead to large-scale conflict, e.g. South Sudan, more than 5,000 people died last year in SALW violence.
- Greatly increase the casualties from crime, e.g. cattle rustling and banditry, and tribal conflict.
- May increase crime—According to one Kenyan government report ten-fold increase in cattle rustling since the early 1990s.

Challenges

- Difficult to reduce demand
- Many sources: producers, governments, and private companies
- Embargoes may create additional scarcity and hence increase profit incentive
- Illicit trade is a business, brokers are businessmen—arms but one commodity
- Many transfers may not be motivated by greed
- Collective action problem

When is a transfer legal, illegal, illicit?

- What is a reasonable standard of scrutiny of documentation?
- Who is responsible for retransfer of arms, for how long?
- When does a transfer become illicit?
- If no law is it illegal?
- What if an illicit transfer is state sanctioned?

LE COLONEL ALI HASSAN
Commandant en Chef de la Force Nationale de Police

REPUBLIQUE DE DJIBOUTI
UNITE D'ARMES ET DE MUNITIONS
MINISTERE DE L'INTERIEUR
FORCE NATIONALE DE POLICE

RECORDON

LE COLONEL ALI HASSAN
CHIEF D'ETAT MAJOR
Commandant en Chef de la F.N.P.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF GOODS	QUANTITY
1.	ZU 23-23mm.	13 PCS.
2.	API -DSK-12.7mm.	60 PCS.
3.	PKM 7.62mm.	110 PCS.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
END USER CERTIFICATE

THE FORCE NATIONAL POLICE OF THE REPUBLIC DJIBOUTI STATE OF DJIBOUTI CERTIFICATE THAT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE ORDERED FROM M/S PANDACOMMERCE LTD.COMPANY, STATE SOFIA, BULGARIA AS PER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT NO:DL/POL/2001/8 AND THE CONCERNED ITEMS SHALL NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO ANY OTHER THIRD PART.

DJIBOUTI POLICE
END USER CERTIFICATE

Who trafficks in arms?



Monzer al Kassar. In 2008 convicted for agreeing to sell arms to FARC.



Yemeni arms merchants are the "source" of many weapons circulating in Horn of Africa



Al-Shabaab



Gus Koewenhoven a use-car dealer, timber merchant, arms broker

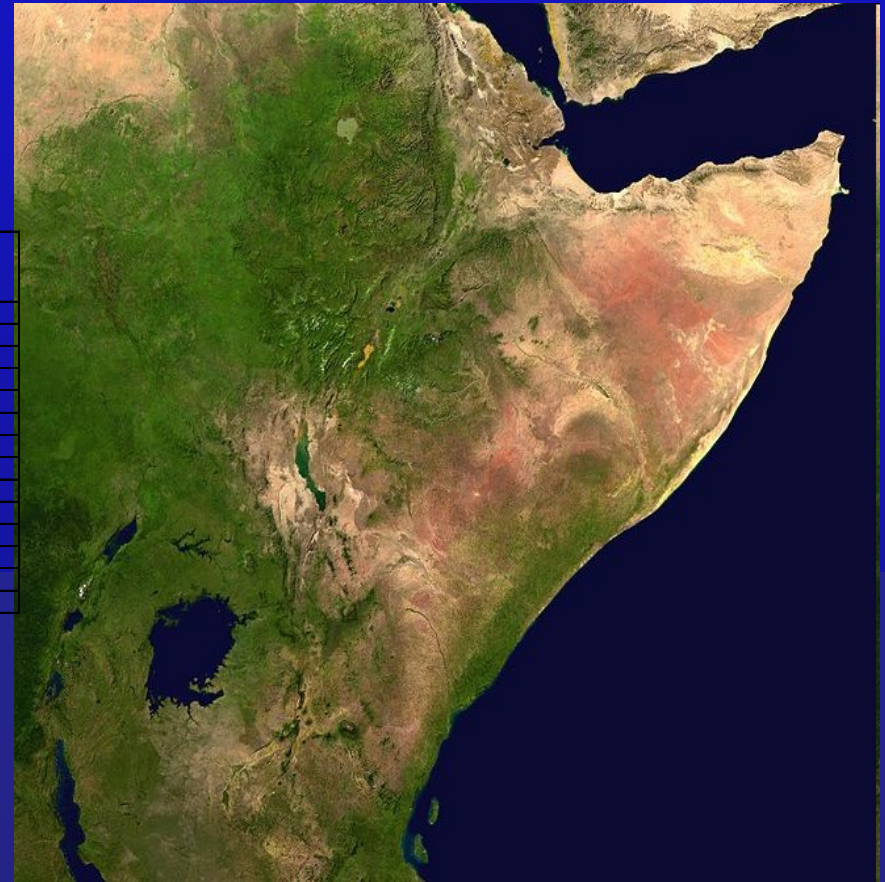


Eritrean President Isaias Afawerki and Ethiopian President Meles Zenawi have both armed warlords in Somalia

“Internal” Arms Market

Approximate Prices of Arms and Ammunition at the Bakara Arms Market (2006-2007)

Weapon	Before CIC	During CIC	After CIC	May 2007
ZU-23 AAA	70,000	10,000	5,000	25,000
DshK HMG	14,000	5,000	3,000	8,000
B-10	7,000	2,000	1,500	6,000
PKM 12	12,000	6,000	4,000	2,000
AK-47	400	250	200	200
RPG-2	500	300	150	500
Ammunition				
ZU-23	7	3	0.5	3.2
DshK	3.5	1	0.5	Not available
B-10	120	30	3	Not available
PKM	5	0.5	0.35	0.3
AK-47	0.75	0.5	0.35	0.30
RPG-2	150	100	25	120



What does an arms trafficker do? What is involved

- Broker arms deals
- Provides documents
- Shipment of arms
- Financing
- Insurance



Governments and arms trafficking

- Lack of capacity and competence
- Corruption
- Complicity



Chad-Sudan "Border"

Way ahead?

- International standards for licensing and documentation of industry—ideally standard documentation, especially EUCs
- Limited and transparent licensing authority
- Greater regional coordination and capacity building within UN, Interpol
- Universal jurisdiction, international crime?
- Political will—how do you sanction states?