

Table 3 ITI provisions

Theme	ITI paragraphs	Provisions
Marking	7, 8, 10	Ensure that marks are on an exposed surface, conspicuous without technical aids or tools, easily recognizable, readable, durable, and, as far as technically possible, recoverable, and ensure that essential or structural components of weapons have unique markings.
	8(a)	Require either (a) a unique marking that provides the name of the manufacturer, the country of manufacture, and the serial number, or (b) an alternative marking using simple geometric symbols in combination with a numeric and/or alphanumeric code, permitting ready identification of the country of manufacture, and, whenever possible, mark additional information such as the year of manufacture, weapon type/model, and calibre.
	8(b)	Require, to the extent possible, simple marking on each imported arm, permitting identification of the country of import and, where possible, the year of import, and also require a unique marking, if the small arm or light weapon does not already bear such a marking.  Note Unique markings do not need to be applied to arms that are temporary imports or permanent imports to be housed in museums.
	8(c)	Ensure that arms transferred from government stockpiles to permanent civilian use are marked in a way that permits identification of the country from whose stockpiles the transfer is made, if it does not already bear such a marking.
	8(d)	Ensure that state-held arms are duly marked.
	8(e)	Encourage manufacturers to develop measures against the removal or alteration of markings.
	9	Ensure that all illicit arms that are found or seized are uniquely marked and recorded, or destroyed, as soon as possible, and that they are securely stored pending disposal.
Record-keeping	12	Keep records of all weapons marked on national territory indefinitely or for a stipulated minimum (see below).
	12(a)	Keep manufacturing records for at least 30 years.
	12(b)	Keep records of transfers and all other records for at least 20 years.
	13	Require companies that are going out of business to forward their records to the state.
Cooperation in tracing	14–23	Ensure the implementation of tracing systems capable of undertaking traces and responding to tracing requests.  Note Exact tracing systems are left to states, but the ITI contains a list of information required for tracing requests and protocols to be used when responding to such requests.

Theme	ITI paragraphs	Provisions
Implementation	24	Establish the laws, regulations, and administrative procedures required to implement the ITI, as needed.
	25	Designate one or more national points of contact to act as liaison(s) on all matters relating to the ITI.
	27–28	Provide international cooperation and technical, financial, and other assistance.
	33–35	Cooperate with INTERPOL.

 **Note** An Open-ended Meeting of Governmental Experts, held from 9 to 13 May 2011, brought together experts on marking, record-keeping, and tracing to discuss challenges and opportunities relating to the ITI. This was the first meeting of its kind in the PoA process. ITI topics also dominated the second such meeting held from 1 to 5 June 2015.

Evolution of the ITI and its relationship to other instruments

As with the PoA (see Part 2.2), benchmarks for assessing and monitoring ITI implementation efforts are evolving. Since it was adopted in 2005, the ITI provisions have been supplemented with the following texts, all of which include commitments and recommendations specific to the ITI:

- the outcome documents of BMS3, BMS4, and and BMS5 (UNGA, 2008a; 2010);
- the chairs' summaries of the first and second Open-ended Meetings of Governmental Experts, held in 2011 and 2015, respectively (UNGA, 2011; 2015a);
- the outcome document of the Second Review Conference (UNGA, 2012a).¹⁸

The opening paragraph of the ITI's preamble highlights the PoA's commitment to strengthening cooperation in identifying and tracing illicit small arms and light weapons, and the fifth paragraph draws attention to its complementary relationship with the Firearms Protocol.

The PoA itself launched the process that led to the ITI's eventual adoption (UNGA, 2001a, part IV.1.c). Like the PoA, the ITI is a politically binding agreement designed to address elements of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. In contrast to the PoA, however, the ITI focuses on a specific set of control measures,

¹⁸ For example, the outcome document expands on the ITI's brief mention of its application to conflict situations, with UN member states undertaking to cooperate with UN bodies, organs, and missions in tracing weapons collected in conflict or post-conflict settings (UNGA, 2012a, annex II, para. (A)(2)(e)).