



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES



Tenth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) 19-23 August 2024

Agenda Item 8: Transparency and Reporting

Delivered by Ambassador Markus V. Lacanilao
Special Envoy on Transnational Crime



Mr. President,

The Philippines reaffirms our commitment to our obligations under Article 13 of the ATT. The Philippine government assures our fellow States Parties that we will continue our accurate and transparent submissions. Such efforts underscore our unwavering commitment to identifying matters of mutual interest and strengthening trade controls on illicit transfers of conventional arms. Transparency and reporting are indeed fundamental in confidence building among States Parties.

Mr. President, at the onset, it can certainly be challenging for a country at its nascent stages of Treaty implementation to meet ATT reporting requirements, especially with the need to find the delicate balance between transparency and national security concerns, as well as overcoming internal and bureaucratic challenges. Nevertheless, the Philippines is committed to fostering collaboration and implementing a whole-of-government approach to facilitate effective and comprehensive ATT reporting.

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DEPARTMENT OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
PHILIPPINES





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It is crucial for the country to focus on capacity-building and set up effective systems to further enhance our national capacity to meet Treaty obligations.

In line with this commitment, the DTI-STMO has taken proactive steps by establishing an e-licensing platform. This platform is a comprehensive one-stop shop for strategic trade matters, encompassing the application and assessment of authorizations or licenses. It also serves as a platform for inter-agency information sharing, allowing the Philippines to maintain a streamlined data management system for ATT reporting.

To help address critical gaps and identify solutions, the Philippines welcomes the Working Group's recommendations and strongly supports the proposals on prioritizing awareness-raising and capacity-building initiatives. We believe these efforts would enhance the States Parties' understanding of the ATT reporting requirements.

Further, the Philippines firmly believes that compliance with transparency and reporting should be augmented by capacity-building measures for digitization to improve States Parties' overall regulatory capacities and compliance with the ATT.



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Mr. President, the Philippines will continue to champion transparency and reporting. The country is ready to contribute to improving reporting capacities by sharing its good practices and challenges. We, therefore, look forward to engaging with our fellow States Parties and working towards fostering a culture of transparency and ultimately achieving shared security.

Thank you, Mr. President.