



Statement on the Report of the Management Committee

Kelsey Gallagher, Project Ploughshares, on behalf of Control Arms
10th Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty

Thank you, Mr. President.

On the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the ATT, Control Arms welcomes the opportunity to think through how best this Treaty and the CSP cycle can effectively address the key issue at hand—namely, preventing irresponsible arms transfers that would lead to human suffering. Addressing this issue means ensuring that the CSP, its Working Groups, and preparatory meetings can effectively and efficiently work for all stakeholders involved.

Control Arms maintains that a simple reduction in the number of Working Group days afforded to this Treaty would be harmful to the health and capacity of the ATT. Therefore, our coalition supports the Management Committee's decision to extend the trial period for one year, and to conduct a formal assessment among all stakeholders on the effectiveness of this new format next year at CSP11. Any proposed reformation of Working Group time must be evidence-driven, and not put the proverbial cart before the horse—or, as expressed by some delegations last year, not place form before function.

We appreciate that options for change for the coming year are very limited, however we do urge the President of CPS11 to timetable the week of Working Group meetings for later in the CSP cycle than was the case this year. We feel strongly that the process would benefit from states and other stakeholders having more time to consider issues, proposals and documentations, and consult internally and with others, before coming together for the single key moment of in-person substantive engagement in the CSP cycle. We would also welcome consultations on the utility of a standalone preparatory committee.

More broadly, we believe this conversation illustrates a larger issue facing the ATT: the lack of any review process that otherwise exists in other arms control and disarmament fora. Such a process would have allowed for the assessment of gaps and achievements in the first ten years, including the optimal makeup of the CSP schedule, and helped to identify what is needed in terms of both substance and process moving forward. Such a mechanism would also provide the space to determine how best the programme of work can upscale the real-world impact of the ATT in contributing to international and regional peace and security and the reduction of human suffering. Control Arms echoes the statements made by some States Parties this week calling to establish such a review process and would advocate exploring this possibility in subsequent CSP cycles.



Finally, our thanks to Dumisani Dladla for his kindness and leadership over the past decade. We wish him all the best for the future. And we welcome the selection of Carina Solmirano to the Head of the ATT Secretariat, and very much look forward to working with her in the years ahead.

Thank you.