



Statement of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Arms Trade Treaty

Eleventh Conference of States Parties (CSP11)

Agenda item 5: General Debate

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delivered by

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Conference on Disarmament**

Thank you Mr. President.

Excellencies and dear colleagues,

Since this is the first time my delegation takes the floor, we would like to thank Ambassador Foradori from Argentina and his team for the excellent work done in preparation of this Conference. We are confident that under your leadership we will have fruitful and productive discussions this week on how to enhance the functioning of the Arms Trade Treaty.

We also wish to extend our sincere appreciation to Ms. Carina Solmirano and the ATT Secretariat for their dedication and professionalism in the preparation of CSP11 and in supporting the work of the Treaty throughout the years.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union yesterday and would like to make some remarks in its national capacity.

First of all, my delegation would like to welcome Colombia into the ATT-family. Especially in these uncertain geopolitical times, your accession to the Treaty is of indispensable value. We hope that your joining will be an impetus to further States joining the treaty and we look forward to working with you in promoting the objectives of the ATT.

Last year, at CSP10, we marked the tenth anniversary of the Arms Trade Treaty; a moment of reflection on what we have achieved together in the past decade. We have made significant progress since the ratification of the treaty, but we also witnessed new challenges and complexities. It is important that our shared responsibility and commitments continue also in the future.

Therefore, the Kingdom of the Netherlands welcomes the working-paper submitted by the United Kingdom emphasizing the importance of developing a long-term ATT strategy. A consolidated strategy will help strengthen focus and prioritize ATT objectives, including cross-cutting perspectives and establishing a clear long-term direction. We look forward to discussing the content of this strategy during CSP11, stimulating to include all ATT stakeholders to build an inclusive, practical multiyear strategy which looks for synergies between the working groups, thematic discussions and broader perspectives such as gender equality and youth engagement.

Mr. President,

Regarding the substantive work of the ATT, I would like to highlight three areas of priority for the Kingdom of the Netherlands :

1. First, the practical implementation of the Treaty has long been a priority for the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Building on the proposals presented at CSP9 regarding the Treaty's functioning and work program, we welcome the progress made in putting the revised working methods into practice. Over the past two years, data has been gathered to evaluate the effectiveness of this approach, and based on these insights, we believe the time is right to move forward with its formal implementation. The current structure enables a more focused and efficient way of working, which positively advances the Treaty's overall objectives. This includes the reorganization of the working group and preparatory meeting days, alignment of the thematic discussions with working group objectives, focusing on treaty implementation and universalization, and encouraging the Secretariat to conduct intersessional briefing sessions for Geneva-based Points of Contact. The Kingdom of the

Netherlands fully supports the revised program and expresses its gratitude to the Management Committee for their dedicated efforts.

2. Second, transparency is another cornerstone of the ATT and one of its most powerful tools to build trust and accountability. Without accurate and timely information on arms transfers, we cannot engage in informed dialogue, identify risks, or work effectively to prevent diversion. Yet, recent figures show a historic decline in reporting, and consequently, in transparency. The Kingdom of the Netherlands therefore urges all States Parties, and especially the major arms exporters, who bear a special responsibility, to submit their annual reports in time and to make them publicly available, in accordance with our shared commitments under the Treaty. The Kingdom of the Netherlands is firmly committed to this and we call on others to do the same.
3. Third, integrating a gender perspective across all aspects of ATT implementation is crucial. Armed violence affects all genders differently, and our responses must reflect these realities. Gender-based violence remains a serious and widespread concern, demanding collective action. In this context, we support the draft decision to establish Gender Focal Points and thank Mexico for its leadership in keeping this issue high on the agenda. We encourage all States Parties to further strengthen their implementation of Article 7(4). The establishment of Gender Focal Points within the ATT framework is a valuable step in supporting this effort and ensuring sustained attention to gender considerations.

Mr. President, the Kingdom of the Netherlands looks forward to working with all State Parties during this CSP. The priority areas we have identified are not standalone tasks but interwoven threads that together strengthen the legitimacy of the ATT, ensuring to serve as a strong and lasting foundation for international peace and security.

I thank you.