**ATT CSP11**

**Universalization as a Priority**

**(Geneva, 25/8/2025)**

**BRAZIL’S INTERVENTION**

Mr. President,

Brazil congratulates you, Ambassador Carlos Foradori of Argentina, our close partner and sister republic, on assuming the presidency of the Eleventh Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty. The decision to place universalization at the heart of your priorities is both timely and necessary. Please count on us to move forward at the ATT.

We warmly welcome Colombia, Malawi, and The Gambia as new members of the ATT community. Their accession is a reinforcement of the shared determination to subject the international arms trade to rules, transparency, and accountability. Each new State Party strengthens the collective ability to dismantle networks that thrive on opacity and on the porousness of borders.

Mr. President,

Among other objectives, the Treaty was conceived to establish a practical instrument to prevent the diversion of conventional weapons into illicit circuits that sustain organized crime, armed violence, and instability. Universalization is therefore a condition for the effectiveness of our Treaty as a bulwark against a grave type of transnational crime. Where membership remains incomplete, criminal organizations find the very gaps through which weapons are diverted, fueling violence in vulnerable societies and undermining governance. To close those gaps, our community must foster engagement that involves not only States, but also civil society, regional organizations, and the private sector. All are indispensable partners in promoting a culture of responsibility in arms transfers and in sharing essential information. Yet, as firearms continue to be deregulated in certain jurisdictions, it becomes even more urgent to reinforce our collective vigilance against diversion. Tragic consequences are visible in gender-based violence and school shootings, to quote two scourges derived from inadequate controls.

It is imperative that our universalization efforts focus on States most exposed to diversion, trafficking, and cross-border criminality. Their adhesion to the ATT would yield immediate dividends for international security and for the populations most affected by illicit arms flows. By reinforcing national control systems, the Treaty can help States to disrupt criminal economies that profit from violence and instability.

Brazil remains committed to this endeavor. In our region, we have promoted regulatory alignment through Mercosur’s Working Group on Firearms and Ammunition, stimulating cooperative approaches to counter illicit trafficking. We view such regional initiatives as essential bridges toward the Treaty’s universality, multiplying the reach of its standards and embedding them in collective security strategies.

Mr. President,

The ATT must continue to expand and consolidate its role as a normative anchor and as a practical instrument of cooperation. Brazil will continue to support outreach and dialogue, convinced that universalization is the pathway to a safer international order and to the effective suppression of illicit markets that endanger us all.

Thank you.