Statement by Liberia

To the

Eleventh Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty (*CSP11)*

*Geneva, Switzerland*

25 – 29 August 2025

Ambassador Carlos Foradori, President of the CSP11

Representatives of States Parties

Members of the ATT Secretariat

Representatives of Civil Society Organizations

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

Mr. President,

Let me begin by congratulating you on your election as President of the Eleventh Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty (CSP11). I also extend warm congratulations to the members of your Bureau and bring you greetings from my capital, Monrovia.

As a State Party, Liberia remains fully committed to the effective implementation of the ATT. Over the years, we have made significant progress, including becoming one of the first countries in Africa to domesticate the ATT into national legislation. We are proud of this milestone, which serves as an encouraging example for other States Parties striving to domesticate the Treaty.

Your Excellency, we are also pleased to acknowledge the support provided by the ATT Secretariat through the Voluntary Trust Fund, which has complemented our national efforts. We extend our sincere gratitude for this assistance and look forward to continued collaboration.

Mr. President, since the theme of this Conference focuses on promoting the universalization of the Treaty, my delegation is pleased to share Liberia’s contributions in this regard:

In commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the ATT, the Government of Liberia, in partnership with UNIDIR, convened the first pan-African workshop—the “Monrovia Workshop to Support Universalization and Effective Implementation of the ATT” in March 2024. The workshop brought together over fifty participants, including ATT States Parties, Signatory States, and non-Signatory States from Africa, along with representatives of the ATT Secretariat, the African Union, and regional organizations.

A key objective of this landmark workshop was to contribute to increasing the number of ATT States Parties in Africa. Notably, two of the newest States Parties, The Gambia and Malawi participated in the Monrovia Workshop. A “Lessons Learned” document capturing insights and effective measures identified at the workshop is available and can be shared with interested States.

**Mr. President, Excellencies, distinguished participants,** Liberia has also embarked on the registration of civilian firearms, the first such exercise since our civil conflict—which also involves working with a licensed broker to facilitate imports for civilians. This initiative, which I am coordinating, is both historic and challenging. Challenging because, as a woman leading this effort, I often encounter skepticism from male colleagues who question why a female should oversee matters of firearm control. My response is always clear: firearms do not discriminate by gender; armed violence affects men, women, and children alike. This reality highlights the urgency of mainstreaming gender perspectives in national implementation of the ATT.

Finally, Mr. President, I wish to reaffirm Liberia’s commitment to the effective implementation of the ATT. We call for enhanced assistance to States Parties as we work together to achieve the goals of this Treaty.

I thank you for your kind attention.