



Agenda Item 7 - Treaty Implementation
Delivered by Ms. Shalaka Pathak
11th Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty

Thank you, Mr President.

Control Arms welcomes the support expressed today and during the May Preparatory Meetings for the continuation of the ad hoc discussions and for the inclusion of “other stakeholders” in being able to raise issues.

In light of the ongoing atrocities in Gaza, including the starvation of the population and Israel’s declared intention to occupy Gaza City; the continued and targeted bombardment of civilians by the military regime in Myanmar; and the large-scale displacement of civilians and targeting of aid convoys in Sudan; we regret that the agenda of this Conference of States Parties does not include discussions dedicated to arms transfers to these contexts and others.

During the CSP12 cycle, Control Arms looks forward to the dedicated discussions on Articles 6 and 7, and particularly how States Parties control the transfer of components under these provisions. The increased transnationalization of weapons production has resulted in the involvement of multiple companies across several countries producing parts and components for single, full systems - for example, the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter aircraft, the largest-ever joint military production program, that involves components and subcomponents produced by multiple ATT States Parties.

Such programs can and have led to regulatory exemptions on the part of ATT States Parties, particularly related to simplified licensing procedures. We note that components, while themselves not lethal, are essential to the lethal use of conventional arms, and therefore must be strictly controlled, as explicitly noted under Article 6 and 7 of this Treaty.

We would also like to take this opportunity to express Control Arms’ full support for Mexico’s proposal to establish gender focal points under the ATT. It is essential that the ATT community demonstrates that all provisions of the Treaty are being operationalised and this must include the ground-breaking provisions of Article 7(4), which for the first time in an instrument of international law recognised the link between arms transfers and gender-based violence and violence against women and children.