
**JOINT SESSION OF THE ATT WORKING GROUPS ON
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs), 01 JUNE 2018
SUMMARY REPORT AND WAY FORWARD**

INTRODUCTION

1. A Joint Session of the ATT Working Groups on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was held from 09.00-11.00 on 01 June 2018 just prior to the Second Informal Preparatory Meeting of the Fourth Conference of States Parties (CSP4) to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) held in Geneva, Switzerland (hereinafter Joint Session).

2. The meeting was held as follow up to the thematic discussion that took place during the Third Conference of States Parties (CSP3) to the Arms Trade Treaty that explored and highlighted the links and synergies between the Treaty and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with particular reference to Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies – and one of its associated Targets, 16.4 – a significant reduction in illicit arms flows by 2030.

3. In order to further explore how Treaty implementation could contribute to the achievement of the SDGs and strengthen the narrative on the benefits of joining the Treaty, CSP3 decided that the programme of work for the three Working Groups should address aspects of the linkages between the Treaty and the SDGs that are relevant to their mandates and report on these to CSP4 (paragraph 22 of the [Final Report](#) (ATT/CSP3/2017/SEC/184/Conf.FinRep.Rev1)). The aim of the Joint Session was to further explore this relationship and help the Working Group Co-chairs identify the linkages that are relevant to their mandates.

OVERVIEW

4. The Joint Session was co-moderated by Ambassador Klaus Korhonen of Finland and Dr. Anna Alvazzi del Frate, Director of Programmes, Small Arms Survey. Following introductory remarks provided by Ambassador Korhonen, Dr Alvazzi del Frate gave a presentation on the background and status of the SDGs, as well as some examples of links and complementarity between specific SDG targets and the three ATT Working Groups (elaborated in Annex A). This was followed by interventions by the Co-chairs of the three Working Groups on their perception of the SDGs linkages with their agendas, a general discussion among all participants and concluding remarks from the co-moderators and President of CSP4, Ambassador Nobushige Takamizawa of Japan.

5. Some of the key messages raised during the Joint Session included:
 - a. The implementation and application of ATT provisions per se contributes towards the implementation and achievement of the SDGs; there is no additional burden, the SDGs do not represent an additional layer of implementation or reporting;
 - b. The SDGs were adopted by all UN Member States by consensus and the ATT could be an indicator of commitment to achieve the SDGs; and
 - c. Monitoring progress towards the SDGs can help stakeholders to understand and demonstrate the impact of implementation of ATT.

OUTCOMES AND WAY FORWARD

6. Participants in the Joint Session confirmed that ATT implementation can contribute to the achievement of the SDGs and strengthen the narrative on the benefits of joining the Treaty. They affirmed that the three Working Groups should continue to explore the linkages between the Treaty and the SDGs that are relevant to their mandates in the context of their respective meetings and work plans. They also agreed that, moving forward, the exploration of linkages between the Treaty and the SDGs should be an organic process and that the Co-chairs of the Working Groups should identify appropriate opportunities to raise the issue as their work progresses.

7. On the basis of feedback received during the discussions, the Co-chairs of the Working Groups will continue to explore and promote the linkages between the ATT and the SDGs and will identify opportunities to highlight and discuss those linkages in their respective meetings and work plans as and when they arise.

ANNEX A. EXAMPLES WHERE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ATT ARTICLES CAN HELP WORK TOWARDS ACHIEVING SDG TARGETS

Working Group on Treaty Universalization (WGTU)

ATT provision/consideration		SDG link	
ATT Article 1 (Object and Purpose)	The object of this treaty (...) for the purpose of: (...) Reducing human suffering	Target 16.1	Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere
	The object of this treaty is to (...) prevent and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms and prevent their diversion	Target 16.4	By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime
WGTU Work Plan for the CSP4 Preparatory Meetings	Challenge of 'building capacity' (Challenge number 7 in the WGTU list of Challenges to Treaty Universalization in Annex A of the WGTU Work Plan for the CSP4 Preparatory Meetings (ATT/CSP4.WGTU/2018/CHAIR/249/M1.WorkPlan))	Target 16.6	Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
		Target 16.A	Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime
		Target 17.2	Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries
		Target 17.3	Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources
		Target 17.4	Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress

		Target 17.6	Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism
		Target 17.9	Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation
		Target 17.14	Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development
		Target 17.16	Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries
		Target 17.17	Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships
		Target 17.18	By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts
		Target 17.19	By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries

	Challenge of 'reporting obligations' (Challenge number 8 in the WGTU list of Challenges to Treaty Universalization in Annex A of the WGTU Work Plan for the CSP4 Preparatory Meetings (ATT/CSP4.WGTU/2018/CHAIR/249/M1.WorkPlan))	Target 16.10	Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements
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Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation (WGETI)

Sub-working Group on Article 5. General Implementation

ATT provision/consideration		SDG link	
ATT Working Group On Effective Treaty Implementation: Chairs' Summary Report And Way Forward, 06-07 March 2018	Paragraph 35: "With respect to national authorities, participants shared their experiences with establishing new agencies responsible for ATT-related matters, as well as adapting and expanding existing agencies to take on the role. They also provided examples of the range of Ministries and Government agencies involved in competent national authorities. Examples were given of States having different authorities being responsible for different types of transfers, or different types of items, or different types of licenses"	Target 5.5	Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life
		Target 16.6	Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
		Target 16.A	Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime
		Target 16.7	Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

Sub-working Group on Articles 6 and 7. Prohibitions and Export and Export Assessment

ATT provision/consideration		SDG link	
ATT Working Group On Effective Treaty Implementation: Chairs' Summary Report And Way Forward, 06-07 March 2018	Paragraph 23: "The importance of having access to necessary information in order to carry out a proper risk assessment and the need for clear structures and mandates were also raised, as well as the need to establish inter-agency cooperation"	Target 16.4	By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime
		Target 16.1	Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere
		Target 8.7	Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers , and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms
		Target 11.4	Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage
		Target 16.5	Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms
		Target 12.7	Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities ¹
	Paragraph 26: "discussion of Gender Based Violence and article 7(4), due to the time available the discussion was fairly limited. The importance of the obligation was underlined by participants from both state parties and civil society organizations, but it was also recognized by some that more work was needed on this matter to support state parties' implementation"	Target 5.2	Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
Target 8.7		Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and	

¹ These could also be considered in connect with ATT Article 15 on cooperation, which includes provisions to prevent corruption and as such could also be an issue for universalization.

			elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers , and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms
		Target 16.1	Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere
		Target 16.2	End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children

Sub-working Group on Article 11. Diversion

ATT provision/consideration		SDG link	
ATT Working Group On Effective Treaty Implementation: Chairs' Summary Report And Way Forward, 06-07 March 2018	<p>Paragraph 11: "importance of information sharing and of establishing mechanisms and guidance for information exchange to help prevent and address diversion"</p> <p>Paragraph 13(d): "considering possible mechanisms for exchanging information and establishing (or better utilizing) national focal points for information exchange on diversion issues"</p>	Target 16.4	By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime
		Target 16.A	Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime
		Target 15.7	Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products (15.C. Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities)

Working Group on Transparency and Reporting

ATT provision/consideration		SDG link	
ATT Working Group on Transparency and Reporting Co-chairs' report of 8 March 2018 meeting	“As means to support States Parties in submitting timely and accurate initial and annual reports, the following ideas were raised: 1) giving the ATT Secretariat a reporting assistance mandate; 2) listing existing guidance documents and tools; 3) drawing up a roster of reporting experts that States Parties having reporting difficulties can turn to for tailor-made assistance; 4) providing WGTR co-chairs with an outreach role on issues related to reporting; and 5) provide a forum within the ATT IT platform for intersessional exchanges on reporting.”	Target 16.6	Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
		Target 16.A	Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime
		Target 17.18	[By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts]
		Target 16.4	By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime
		Target 16.10	Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements
