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REPORT ON THE ATT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME FOR THE PERIOD 2022/2023

INTRODUCTION

1. This report has been prepared by the ATT Secretariat as administrator of the ATT Sponsorship Programme, in accordance with the decision of the Fourth Conference of States Parties (CSP4) to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).
2. The report covers the operations of the ATT Sponsorship Programme for the period immediately after the Eighth Conference of States Parties (CSP8) up to the Ninth Conference of States Parties (CSP9).
3. The first part of the report provides an overview of the background to the ATT Sponsorship Programme. The second part of the report provides an update on the financial status of the ATT Sponsorship Programme, as at 14 July 2023. The third part of the report provides an overview of the sponsorship applications received and approved by the ATT Sponsorship Programme.

BACKGROUND

4. The Fourth Conference of States Parties (CSP4) decided to entrust the ATT Secretariat with the administration of the ATT Sponsorship Programme from CSP4 (see paragraph 34 of the Final Report of CSP4 held from 20-24 August 2018 (ATT/CSP4/2018/SEC/369/Conf.FinRep.Rev1)). CSP4 also

‘directed the Secretariat and the Management Committee to elaborate the necessary protocols governing the administration of the ATT sponsorship programme by the ATT Secretariat, in consultation with States Parties and Signatory States, including a protocol to guide the selection process of the ATT sponsorship programme in order to ensure transparency, efficiency and impartiality in the work of the programme’ (paragraph 34 of the Final Report).

5. In accordance with this directive, the ATT Secretariat and the Management Committee elaborated *Draft Administrative Guidelines for the ATT Sponsorship Programme* that included a description of the purpose of the ATT Sponsorship Programme and its operations, as well as Annexes setting out the general principles to be applied to the selection of applicants and financial protocols governing the use of funds. CSP5 considered and adopted the Draft Administrative Guidelines for the ATT Sponsorship Programme.

STATUS OF SPONSORSHIP FUNDING

6. The ATT Secretariat opened a bank account dedicated to the ATT Sponsorship Programme in October 2018 and issued annual calls for contributions to the ATT Sponsorship Programme from 18 October 2018 - 25 November 2022 in an effort to raise funds for the Sponsorship Programme.

7. As at 14 July 2023, the ATT Secretariat had received voluntary contributions from nine (9) donor states namely Australia, Canada, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Switzerland. To date, a total of **USD 1,233,230** in sponsorship funds has been received into the sponsorship fund (see Annex A).

8. The ATT Sponsorship Programme sponsored 20 delegates to attend the first series of Working Group meetings and the First CSP9 Informal Preparatory Meeting held from 14 – 17 February 2023. The total cost of sponsoring the 20 sponsored delegates to attend the February meetings was USD 93,410.05. The average cost of sponsoring each delegate was USD 4,760.50.

9. The ATT Sponsorship Programme sponsored 18 delegates to attend the second series of Working Group meetings and the Second CSP9 Informal Preparatory Meeting held from 09 – 12 May 2023. The total cost of sponsoring the 18 sponsored delegates to attend the April meetings was USD 118,257.14. The average cost of sponsoring each delegate was USD 6,569.84.

10. As at 14 July 2023, the ATT Sponsorship Programme had approved 43 delegates to attend CSP9 taking place from 21 – 25 August 2023. The total cost of sponsoring the 43 delegates to attend CSP9 will not be known until after the Conference, however, it is estimated that it will be approximately USD 241,670.00.

SPONSORSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR THE CSP9 CYCLE

11. The ATT Secretariat issued its first call for applications to the sponsorship programme for the CSP9 cycle on 28 November 2022. The call for applications was issued to States, who were invited to apply for any and all of the meetings taking place in the CSP9 cycle by 16 December 2022. The ATT Secretariat issued its second call for applications to the sponsorship programme on 24 February 2023 with a deadline of 17 March 2023. The ATT Secretariat issued its third and final call for applications to the sponsorship programme on 24 May 2023 with a deadline of 15 June 2023.

12. As part of the application process, States were asked to nominate one delegate only to be sponsored and were required to submit a completed application form, a *note verbale* confirming the nomination of the delegate, and a copy of the passport for the nominated delegate.

13. By the deadline for each of the CSP9 cycle meetings, the ATT Secretariat received a total of 30 applications to attend the first series of meetings (taking place from 14 – 17 February 2023); 36¹ applications to attend the second series of meetings (taking place from 09 – 12 May 2023); and 55 applications to attend CSP9 (taking place from 21 –25 August 2023).

14. The same process for selecting applicants for approval for sponsorship was applied for each round. The selection process involved the following steps: first, the ATT Secretariat prepared a shortlist of applicants who were *eligible* to receive sponsorship. Second, the ATT Secretariat submitted the shortlist of applicants eligible for sponsorship to the donors for review and consideration to ensure the

¹ 3 states withdrew after the selection and outcome notification process, and the number of applications dropped from 36 to 33.

list of delegates to be sponsored was consistent with donors' conditionalities. The ATT Secretariat then communicated the outcomes of the selection process to all applicants and commenced logistical preparations for their attendance at the respective meetings.

SUPPORT TO SPONSORED DELEGATES

15. In addition to arranging flights, accommodation and *per diems*, as contemplated in the financial protocols associated with the Administrative Guidelines, the ATT Secretariat also held a briefing for sponsored delegates for half a day on the day before the First CSP9 Preparatory Meeting (13 February 2023) and the Second CSP9 Preparatory Meeting (08 May 2023). The briefing provided an opportunity to meet and greet the sponsored delegates in advance of the meetings; gave an overview of the sponsorship programme and what delegates' entitlements are under the programme; gave the sponsored delegates an overview of the Treaty and the work ahead for the approaching meeting; provided them with an overview of the Voluntary Trust Fund and its application process; allowed the delegates to meet with the President of the Conference and other ATT office holders; and ensured delegates received their full *per diems* at the beginning of the week as well as a package of all documents pertaining to the approaching meeting.

OVERVIEW OF SPONSORED DELEGATES

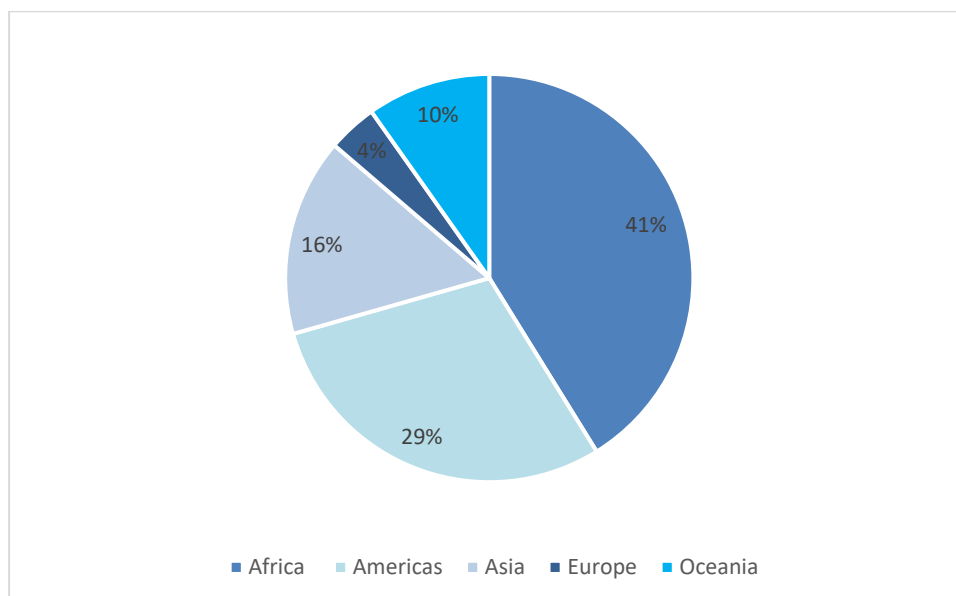
16. The criteria applied to the selection of applicants for sponsorship included consideration of OECD-DAC status; equitable regional representation; gender equality considerations; ATT status; and expertise and role of applicant, including whether the applicant State is a member or office-holder of any committee or subsidiary body. An analysis of these considerations is provided below and an overview comparing the number of applicants within each category compared to the number of sponsored delegates within each category is provided in Annex C.

OECD-DAC analysis

17. Most of the States that received sponsorship to attend meetings during the CSP9 cycle appear on the DAC List of ODA Recipients for 2022-2023. Seventeen (17) of the 51 States that received sponsorship are LDCs (33%); six (6) are LMIC&T (12%); twenty-one (21) are UMIC&T (41%); and the remaining seven (7) are not on the DAC list (14%).

Regional overview

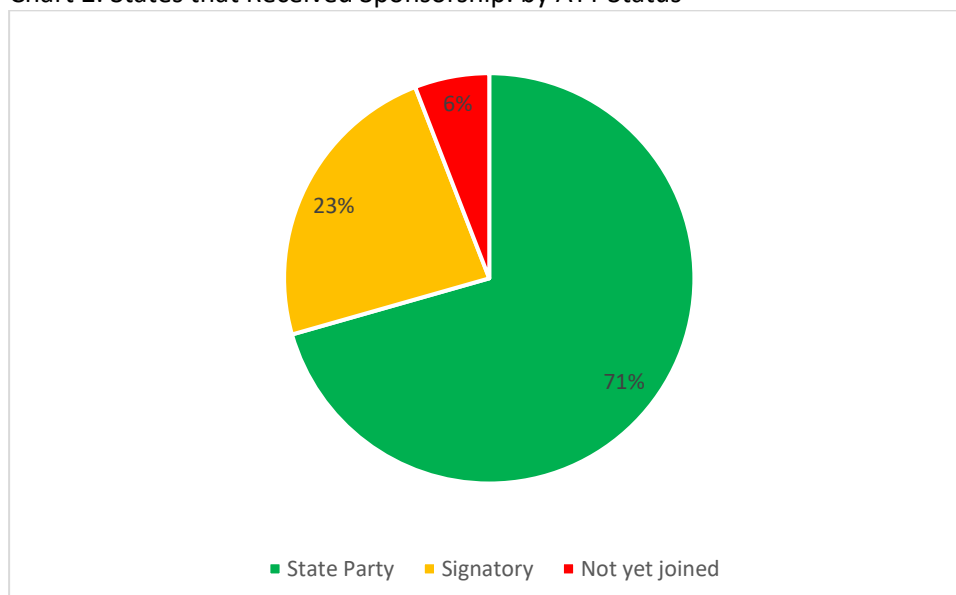
Chart 1. States that Received Sponsorship: by Region



18. Chart 1 provides an overview of all delegates that were sponsored to attend meetings during the CSP9 cycle according to region. **A total of 81 delegates from 51 States² received sponsorship from the ATT Sponsorship Programme in the CSP9 cycle.** As illustrated by Chart 1, twenty-one (21) (41%); of those States are from Africa; fifteen (15) (29%) are from the Americas; eight (8) (16%) are from Asia; two (2) (4%) are from Europe; and five (5) (10%) are from Oceania.

ATT status

Chart 2. States that Received Sponsorship: by ATT Status



19. Chart 2 illustrates that of the 51 States that received sponsorship funding to attend meetings during the CSP9 cycle, thirty-six (36) are States Parties to the ATT (71%); twelve (12) are Signatories (23%) and only three (3) has not yet joined the Treaty (6%).

² Some States were sponsored to attend more than one meeting in the CSP9 cycle.

Gender considerations

20. Of the 81 representatives that received sponsorship during the CSP9 cycle, 47 are men (58%) and 34 are women (42%).

Role of applicant

21. One of the delegates sponsored to attend all three of the CSP9 meetings – Mr. Rob WENSLEY of South Africa – was a facilitator of a Sub-Working Group of the Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation.

CONCLUSION

22. In summary, since the ATT Secretariat began administering the ATT Sponsorship Programme in September 2018, the ATT Sponsorship Programme received a total of **USD 1,223,230** in voluntary contributions. A total of USD 200,786 was used for the CSP5 cycle, USD 73,884 was used for the CSP6 cycle, USD 11,846 was used for the CSP7 cycle, USD 306,034 was used for the CSP8 cycle, and an estimated amount of USD 453,337³ will be used to support delegates in the CSP9 cycle, subject to financial reconciliation after CSP9. The ATT Secretariat is planning to use the remaining funds towards the ATT Sponsorship Programme for the CSP10 cycle.

³ Subject to financial reconciliation after CSP9

ANNEX A. FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE ATT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME – FUNDS RECEIVED⁴

Contributions to ATT Sponsorship Programme			
1	Australia	USD	35,596.19
2	Canada	USD	120,701.70
3	Germany	USD	400,458.65
4	Ireland	USD	28,442.00
5	Netherlands	USD	170,455.00
6	Portugal	USD	34,928.34
7	Republic of Korea	USD	160,000.00
8	Sweden	USD	39,145.66
9	Switzerland	USD	233,502.46
Total contributions received		USD	1,223,230.00

⁴ The table includes contributions made to the ATT Sponsorship Programme since CSP4 entrusted the ATT Secretariat with the administration of the ATT Sponsorship Programme (i.e. from 25 August 2018).

ANNEX B. ATT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME – FINANCIAL POSITION

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME INTERIM STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION		
INCOME		
Contributions received in 2019	USD	320,563.60
Contributions received in 2020	USD	459,708.57
Contributions received in 2021	USD	144,619.75
Contributions received in 2022	USD	192,636.38
Contributions received in 2023	USD	105,701.70
Other income	USD	0.00
Total Income	USD	1,223,230.00
EXPENDITURE		
Total Expenditure CSP5 Cycle (2019)	USD	200,786.00
Total Expenditure CSP6 Cycle (2020)	USD	73,884.00
Total Expenditure CSP7 Cycle (2021)	USD	11,846.00
Total Expenditure CSP8 Cycle (2022)	USD	306,034.00
Estimated Expenditure CSP9 Cycle (2023)	USD	453,337.00 ⁵
Total Expenditure	USD	1,045,887.00
NET SURPLUS (Available Funds)	USD	177,343.00

⁵ Excluding administration costs.

ANNEX C. ATT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME – COMPARISON OF APPLICANTS AND SPONSORED DELEGATES AGAINST THE SELECTION CRITERIA

Meeting →		February Meetings		May Meetings		CSP9		TOTAL	
Selection Criteria ↓		Applicants	Sponsored delegates	Applicants	Sponsored delegates	Applicants	Sponsored delegates	Applicants	Sponsored delegates
DAC Status	LDC	17	10	13	5	20	13	50	28
	Other Low Income Countries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Lower Middle Income	3	2	5	3	6	5	14	10
	Upper Middle Income	7	5	11	9	22	18	40	32
	Not on DAC list	3	3	4	1	7	7	14	11
	Sub Total	30	20	33	18	55	43	118	81
Region	Africa	21	12	16	5	25	17	62	34
	Americas	4	3	10	8	15	12	29	23
	Asia	3	3	5	3	8	8	16	14
	Europe	0	0	0	0	3	2	3	2
	Oceania	2	2	2	2	4	4	8	8
	Sub Total	30	20	33	18	55	43	118	81
ATT Status	State Party	24	14	28	15	42	31	94	60
	Signatory	5	5	4	3	10	9	19	17
	Not yet joined	1	1	1	0	3	3	5	4
	Sub Total	30	20	33	18	55	43	118	81
Gender	Male	21	12	20	10	36	25	77	47
	Female	9	8	13	8	19	18	41	34
	Sub Total	30	20	33	18	55	43	118	81