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ATT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

Pertaining the decision of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) at the Second Conference of States Parties (CSP2) ([Final Report](#)¹ of CSP2, paragraph 24), the current sponsorship arrangements for the ATT has been retained under UNDP administration for the next two years (2017-2018) with a view to review these arrangements at the Fourth Conference of States Parties (CSP4).

Information and application

Information relevant to the UNDP sponsorship programmes under the ATT either for the preparatory meetings or the CSPs has been as per the established practice shared through the ATT Secretariat either by posting on the ATT website or by email circulation ensuring that the information reach widely all potentials beneficiaries. UNDP, as per the standard practice, also circulates the sponsorship programme information through its country offices to be conveyed to the attention of government counterparts.

As a standard practice, all delegates are requested to submit a Note Verbale/nomination letter with sponsorship requests including name and contact details of the nominated delegate to benefit from the sponsorship to allow efficient processing.

Allocation of sponsorships

UNDP has a have very good and efficient collaboration with the ATT Secretariat on the allocation of sponsorships for states.

The allocation of sponsorships for the NGO community, is done by UNDP together with an informal selection committee of NGO members established to ensure a transparent selection process and the best distribution of the available funds to qualified NGOs and to ensure coordination with potential other sponsorship arrangements by NGOs themselves.

The committee members were selected among organisations who work to support the purpose and intent of the Treaty through active collaboration with states and the ATT Secretariat and is currently composed of 5 NGO representatives (CA, GRIP, Nonviolence International Southeast Asia, SIPRI and the Small Arms Survey) that, on a voluntary basis assist UNDP in reviewing and selecting NGO applications to the UNDP sponsorship programme against previously agreed criteria.

¹ http://thearmstradetreaty.org/images/ATT_documents/Final_Report_ATT_CSP2_2016_5.pdf

By participating in this work, the NGO representatives forfeited the eligibility of members of their organisations for joining the sponsorship programme under UNDP. We believe that this is the best way to assure a broad-based engagement and transparency around the selections made.

Sponsorships

In 2017, UNDP administered sponsorship programmes for four events under the ATT:

- First Preparatory meeting in February 2017
- Second Preparatory meeting in April 2017
- Third Preparatory meeting in May 2017
- CSP3

Preparatory meetings

UNDP provided sponsorships in total to 14 state representatives and 4 NGO representatives.

- First Preparatory meeting - 2 states and 2 NGOs (Cameroon/ Zambia and Caribbean Coalition for Development and the Reduction of Armed Violence/ International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Zambia – IPPNW)
- Second Preparatory meeting – 2 states and 1 NGO (Cameroon/ Zambia and Centro de Estudios Ecumenicos AC, Mexico)
- Third Preparatory meeting - 10 states and 1 NGO (Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Liberia (cancellation), Sierra Leone, Togo, Uruguay, Zambia, El Salvador, Ghana, Palau, and West Africa Action Network on Small Arms Nigeria Chapter -WAANSA Nigeria)

CSP3

UNDP has provided 43 sponsorships.

(Albania, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Liberia (cancelled), The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Montenegro, Mozambique, Niger, Palau, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland, Togo, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Zambia, and ECOWAS).

Upon the request of States Parties the sponsorship programme for CSP3 was open for early applications on **7 July 2017** with the deadline on **31 July 2017** and was extended till 7 August 2017 due to low numbers of applications.

The sponsorship programme covers the following:

- The most economic and direct roundtrip economy air ticket² to Geneva;
- Applicable allowances³;
- Travel insurance policy suitable to the EU requirements; and
- Accommodation

² According to the UNDP rules and regulations.

³ Applicable per diem and terminal allowances for airport transfers.

With reference to the accommodation, UNDP has always endeavoured to provide the most appropriate accommodation when lodging sponsored delegates. The general criteria followed are the vicinity of the venue to limit transfers, availability of standard 3-star hotel accommodation while simultaneously adhering to the UNDP rules and regulations.

This year, the CSP3 coincides with other important events taking place in Geneva (including the Human Rights Council). Despite all the efforts, the sponsorship programme faced difficulties in finding the suitable accommodation and placing a group booking. UNDP together with the ATT Secretariat weighted the possible options, however, it was decided that in the view of delegates coming from different parts of the world it would be most appropriate to include the accommodation although the usual standards would not be met.

UNDP places importance and all the efforts in managing the ATT sponsorship programme in the most effective and efficient manner. The performance of the sponsorship programme is however, also dependent on the sponsored delegates themselves, their understanding of the rules guiding the programme, and their cooperation and prompt response to ensure no delays in the pursue of tickets and visas and other vital information required for logistics in place for the date of departure. We are grateful for the positive feedback we have received from many but also cognizant of some delegates concern over the selection of hotel for sponsored delegates for CSP3. We hope for your understanding this time around but would also propose to States parties in cooperation with the Secretariat to closely monitor the schedule of events in Geneva to secure a more “vacant” week in busy International Geneva.

Funds

The ATT sponsorship programme has currently income of funds in the amount of approximately 290,000⁴ USD (Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom).

Based on individual donors’ agreements, the total amount was divided to support the CSP3 preparatory process and the CSP3. Due to the ongoing open sponsorship programme, the current provisional expenditures are in the amount of approximately 230,000 USD. The estimated balance is in the amount of 60,000 USD⁵.

CSP4

UNDP has already received pledges from 2 donor countries towards the sponsorship programmes in 2018 and will be working with the current donors on the possible transfer of the unused balances towards CSP4.

⁴ Amount estimated due to the pending contribution transfers.

⁵ The expenditures are not final and any balances indicated are interim.