

**WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPARENCY AND REPORTING (WGTR)  
DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR MEETING OF 11 MAY 2023**

**Opening and adoption of the draft annotated agenda**

*Under this agenda item, WGTR participants will have the opportunity to share remarks about this draft annotated agenda and to propose additional agenda items under AOB.*

**1. State of play of compliance with reporting obligations and challenges concerning reporting**

*Under this agenda item, the ATT Secretariat will give **a general overview of the reporting status**, and of the progress that has been made in comparison to the previous status update.*

*Following this presentation, the Chair will invite States Parties that have not yet complied with all their reporting obligations to share their **challenges to submitting timely and accurate initial and annual reports**. The Chair will also invite States Parties that have complied with their reporting obligations to share their **experiences in compiling and submitting reports**.*

*Concerning the **outreach strategy on reporting**, the ATT Secretariat will first brief WGTR participants about the engagement of the CSP9 President and the ATT Secretariat with those States Parties that are in arrears with their reporting obligations. WGTR participants will also be invited to brief the WGTR on initiatives they have taken to promote reporting and support States Parties in addressing their reporting challenges.*

*Concerning the **project of voluntary practical bilateral and regional assistance with reporting (peer-to-peer)**, the ATT Secretariat will brief WGTR participants about the steps it has undertaken to identify States able and willing to assume the role of regional champions on reporting by supporting States Parties in their region experiencing challenges with ATT reporting.*

*Subsequently, WGTR participants will also have the opportunity to propose and discuss **other means to support States Parties in addressing their reporting challenges**.*

**2. Substantive reporting and transparency issues under article 13 of the ATT**

*Under this agenda item, the WGTR participants will be invited to exchange practices, challenges and limitations concerning substantive issues about the reporting obligations that could benefit from consideration by the WGTR such as the **public availability** of annual and initial reports, **gender considerations**, **synergies with other reporting obligations** and the **aggregation of data**.*

Subsequently, the WGTR participants will consider submitted proposals for alterations or additional questions and answers for the **'FAQ'-type guidance document on the annual reporting obligation.**<sup>1</sup>

### 3. Transparency issues and information exchange

Under this agenda item, WGTR participants will have the general opportunity to exchange practices, challenges and limitations concerning **information exchanges that are required or encouraged by the Treaty**, both on the policy level, as well as on the operational level and to propose and discuss structured mechanisms, processes or formats facilitating those information exchanges.

Concerning the **Information Exchange Platform (IEP) in the Restricted Area of the ATT website**, WGTR participants will have a second opportunity to share their views on the continuing role of the IEP on the basis of the questions which were originally included in the [introductory paper for the 16 February 2023 WGTR meeting](#) and are reproduced in Annex A.<sup>2</sup> To inform the discussion, the ATT Secretariat will provide a short presentation of the IEP, in reference to the guidance on the use of the IEP that is available in the Restricted Area of the ATT website.

Concerning the **online reporting functionality**, States Parties that have used the online reporting tool will be invited to share their experience, and those that have not, to share why they prefer another reporting format..

Concerning proposals to **harness information from the initial and annual reports in a manner that allows follow-up** on these reports, the Chair will first seek further views of WGTR participants on the way forward concerning the project of an **online searchable database** on the basis of the information included in the introductory paper for the 16 February 2023 WGTR meeting and the question that is reproduced in Annex A. Subsequently, the Chair will invite participants to propose and discuss any other proposal.

### 4. WGTR mandate between CSP9 and CSP10

Under this agenda item, the Chair will present a draft proposal for the mandate of the WGTR in the period between CSP9 and CSP10 (Annex B). WGTR participants will also be invited to present their own proposals (which they are encouraged submit ahead of the meeting in writing to the ATT Secretariat, via [info@thearmstradetreaty.org](mailto:info@thearmstradetreaty.org)).

AOB

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<sup>1</sup> This item will only be addressed if any proposals are submitted to the ATT Secretariat, or via the information exchange platform, at the latest ten days before the WGTR meeting.

<sup>2</sup> The introductory paper is available on the ATT website, in the 16 Feb section of the 1st CSP9 Working Group and Preparatory Meeting page: <https://www.thearmstradetreaty.org/csp9-first-working-group-and-preparatory-meeting/index.html>.

**ANNEX A**  
**QUESTIONS CONCERNING INFORMATION EXCHANGE PLATFORM AND ONLINE SEARCHABLE DATABASE**

*The questions below were originally included in the [introductory paper for the 16 February 2023 WGTR meeting](#) and are reproduced in this annex to facilitate further discussions on these topics during the 11 May 2023 WGTR meeting.<sup>3</sup> **To assist effective discussions, participants are also encouraged to provide their responses to these questions ahead of the meeting in writing to the ATT Secretariat, via [info@thearmstradetreaty.org](mailto:info@thearmstradetreaty.org).***

**Information Exchange Platform**

1. Do WGTR participants see a continuing role for an Information Exchange Platform in the operation of the ATT process and/or for exchanges that are required or encouraged by the Treaty?
2. Is its current set-up sufficient to allow meaningful exchanges and information-sharing?
3. Could a simple step like the ATT Secretariat notifying States Parties and Signatories of announcements on the platform enhance its use?
4. Are there other improvements to the platform itself that could enhance its use?
5. Should the access to the platform be extended to all registered ATT stakeholders, or have public part to allow broader and more inclusive exchanges, as suggested by one State Party during the CSP7 cycle?

**Online searchable database**

1. Do participants agree on the technical parameters of a possible online searchable database, set out on pages 10-11 of the introductory paper for the 16 February 2023 WGTR meeting and, if so, want to mandate the ATT Secretariat to obtain cost estimates of a searchable database according to these parameters?

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<sup>3</sup> The introductory paper is available on the ATT website, in the 16 Feb section of the 1st CSP9 Working Group and Preparatory Meeting page: <https://www.thearmstradetreaty.org/csp9-first-working-group-and-preparatory-meeting/index.html>.

**ANNEX B**  
**DRAFT MANDATE FOR THE WGTR FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 2023-AUGUST 2024**

*In accordance with its Terms of Reference and Rule 42(2) of the ATT Rules of Procedure, the Working Group would like to propose for consideration by CSP9 the following tasks for further work in the period between CSP9 and CSP10:*

1. The WGTR shall continue to conduct exchanges concerning the fulfilment of the reporting obligations in Article 13 of the ATT and the broader issue of transparency in the international trade in conventional arms. In its meetings, the WGTR shall, as a minimum, deal with the following standing agenda items:
  - a. State of play of compliance with reporting obligations and challenges concerning reporting;
  - b. Substantive issues concerning reporting under Article 13 of the ATT;
  - c. Transparency and information exchange; and
  - d. WGTR mandate in the period between CSP10 and CSP11.
  
2. With regard to the **state of play of compliance with reporting obligations and challenges concerning reporting**, the WGTR will:
  - a. review the status of reporting at every meeting, thereby focusing on the progress that has been made in comparison to the previous status updates;
  - b. invite participants of States Parties that are in non-compliance with their ATT reporting obligations to present their challenges to submitting timely and accurate initial and annual reports, as well as participants of States Parties that have complied with their reporting obligations to present their experiences in compiling and submitting reports;
  - c. monitor the implementation of the “Outreach strategy on reporting”<sup>4</sup> and the project of voluntary practical bilateral and regional assistance with reporting (peer-to-peer); and
  - d. give participants the opportunity to propose and discuss other means to promote reporting and support States Parties in addressing their reporting challenges.
  
3. With regard to **substantive issues concerning reporting under Article 13 of the ATT**, the WGTR will:
  - a. give participants the opportunity to exchange practices, challenges and limitations concerning substantive issues about the reporting obligations that could benefit from consideration by the WGTR; and
  - b. consider submitted proposals for alterations or additional questions and answers for the ‘FAQ’-type guidance document on the annual reporting obligation, adopted at CSP3 and updated at CSP5 and CSP8.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> The “Outreach strategy on reporting” is included as Annex A in the WGTR Co-Chairs’ Draft Report to CSP4, available on the ATT website, in the Working Groups section of the CSP4 Conference documents page: <https://www.thearmstradetreaty.org/conference-documents-csp-4.html>.

<sup>5</sup> The ‘FAQ’-type guidance document on the annual reporting obligation is available on the ATT website, on the Reporting

4. With regard to **transparency issues and information exchange**, the WGTR will:
- a. give participants the opportunity to exchange practices, challenges and limitations concerning information exchanges that are required or encouraged by the Treaty, both on the policy level, as well as on the operational level;
  - b. monitor the use of the online reporting functionality and the information exchange platform on the ATT website *[and further examine ways for the platform to support the work of the WGTR and the WGET as well as cooperation between States Parties]<sup>6</sup>*;
  - c. *[further examine the feasibility a functionality that makes the information in annual reports available in a searchable database that allows for queries and extracting data; and]<sup>7</sup>*
  - d. consider *[other]* proposals to harness information from the initial and annual reports in a manner that allows follow-up on these reports.
5. With regard to the **WGTR mandate in the period between CSP10 and CSP11**, the WGTR will review the relevance of the aforementioned agenda items in the light of the state of play of ATT transparency and reporting and explore possibilities of aligning its work with the mainstream work of WGETI, with a view to preparing a proposal for consideration by CSP10.

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Requirements page: <https://www.thearmstradetreaty.org/reporting.html>.

<sup>6</sup> The final wording of this item depends on the outcome of the discussion on this topic during the WGTR meeting of 11 May 2023.

<sup>7</sup> Inclusion of this item depends on the outcome of the discussion on this topic during the WGTR meeting of 11 May 2023. If there is no significant support to take this project further, it will no longer be included in the mandate.