**Amnesty International statement at the 10th Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty**

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Amnesty International has long campaigned for a world in which arms transfers no longer fuel atrocities across the globe. The adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty was a milestone in this journey – as is this 10th Conference of States Parties.

Our movement continues to strongly support the Treaty’s principles - in particular the international human rights and humanitarian law provisions contained in Articles 6 and 7.

However, the Arms Trade Treaty will only ever be as strong as its States Parties’ willingness to fully implement these articles in a consistent, objective and non-discriminatory manner.

Amnesty International’s primary research on the impact of weapons transfers on international human rights and humanitarian law clearly shows that some states are not living up to these obligations.

In relation to the current escalation of the conflict in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory, ATT States Parties as well as signatories - such as the USA and some European states - continue to authorize arms transfers in the face of evidence of indiscriminate and direct attacks on civilians and civilian objects which, must be investigated as war crimes. Additionally, the International Court of Justice has indicated the plausible risk of genocide in Gaza and the existence of a system of apartheid against Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. The application for arrest warrants by the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Israeli Minister of Defence Yoav Gallant for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Gaza provides further grounds for the suspension of the authorization of arms transfers to Israel by States Parties and signatories.

In a report released last month, Amnesty International has also documented fresh flows of recently-manufactured Chinese, Serbian and Turkish weapons into Sudan – another armed conflict which has been marred by mass civilian casualties and displacement as a result of both deliberate and indiscriminate attacks by the warring parties.

These transfers are in contravention of the Arms Trade Treaty and must be halted immediately.

All States Parties and signatories must reaffirm their commitment to the ATT’s core principles by ceasing all transfers to conflicts blighted by serious international human rights and humanitarian law violations, and by stepping up efforts to prevent diversion.

Only then can the Arms Trade Treaty fulfil its promise to prevent human suffering and protect all who must enjoy human rights, free from the devastating effects of unlawful arms transfers that facilitate grave abuses.