

The Arms Trade Treaty
Avenue de France 23
CH-1202 Geneva
21 January 2021

To : Representatives of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty.

Dear Representatives of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty,

ANNOUNCEMENT: OUTCOME OF CONSULTATIONS TO DISCUSS RESOLVING CSP6 DRAFT DECISIONS NOT APPROVED

1. I write to provide you with an update on the outcomes of the consultations conducted by the vice-Presidents on my behalf with respect to the proposals contained in the announcement circulated on 09 November 2020 regarding the approach to resolving CSP6 draft decisions not approved.
2. The vice-Presidents and Namibia, in its capacity as African Group Coordinator on Disarmament issues, held consultations with the States Parties in their respective regional groups in November 2020, to discuss my suggestions for how to move the draft decisions forward, and to obtain your feedback. The vice-Presidents and Namibia provided me with their feedback from the consultations, in writing, which I reviewed carefully. I then called a meeting of the vice-Presidents to discuss the outcomes of their consultations and to share with them my conclusions on how to move forward.
3. My conclusions on how to move forward, based on the consultations held with you, States Parties to the Treaty, are as follows:

Draft decisions nos. 9-11 (WGETI work plans)

4. The CSP7 President will conduct informal consultations on the CSP6 draft decisions 9 to 11 as well as the workplans themselves with all States Parties. In the absence of the possibility to conduct in-person informal consultations, the CSP7 President will circulate to all States Parties revised versions of draft decisions 9 to 11 and the workplans themselves that note that the workplans are living documents of a voluntary nature. The documents will be made publicly available on the ATT website. States Parties, civil society and other stakeholders will be invited to submit written comments on the revised documents by a set date and comments received in writing will be made publicly available on the ATT website.
5. Once the date for written comments has passed, the CSP7 President, with the help of the ATT Secretariat, will further revise draft decisions 9 to 11 as well as the workplans themselves to accommodate written comments received. The CSP7 President will then formally submit the re-revised documents to States Parties for adoption via silence procedure in the intersessional period preferably *before* the first CSP7 informal preparatory meeting.

6. If it is not possible to adopt revised versions of the workplans via silence procedure, the Facilitators of the various Sub-working groups are requested to present elements of their draft plans as agendas/programmes of work well in advance of each meeting as they arise and for States Parties' consideration, as opposed to as a multi-year plan.

Draft decisions nos. 15 and 16 (Rule 8(1)d)

MC Guidelines on 'Arrangements' (draft decision no. 15)

7. A proposal to extend the mandate given by CSP5 to the Management Committee to prepare guidelines on the issue of 'arrangements' under Rule 8(1)d will be put to States Parties for possible adoption via silence procedure as soon as possible. The proposal will be to request the Management Committee to continue to prepare guidelines on the issue of "arrangements with the Secretariat in relation to the discharge of its financial obligations" (reference Financial Rule 8.1.d), based on the Management Committee's proposal to CSP6 contained in Annex A to the Draft Elements for a Secretariat's Procedure Regarding Rule 8 (1) d (contained in document ATT/CSP6.MC/2020/MC/609/Conf.PropFinArr8(1)d), for consideration and possible adoption at CSP7.

Consideration of financial status in the VTF and Sponsorship Programme (draft decision no. 16.a)

8. States Parties will be invited to decide, via silence procedure, to the following: 'No State shall be prejudiced by Financial Rule 8.1.d in applying for support from the ATT Voluntary Trust Fund or the ATT Sponsorship Programme until CSP7, when this matter will be considered'. This proposal will be put to States Parties at the same time as the proposal that the Management Committee continue its mandate (see paragraph 7 above), and will form part of the same proposal.

Consideration of financial status in the VTF and Sponsorship Programme (draft decision no. 16.b)

9. In the absence of sufficient support for the proposal contained in the announcement circulated on 09 November 2020, any State Party or group of States Parties that would like the Conference of States Parties to further discuss the application of Financial Rule 8 (1)d on decisions to be taken by the VTF Selection Committee and the ATT Sponsorship Programme, may submit a formal proposal to do so.

Draft decision no. 17 (CSP6 President Working Paper)

10. Ambassador Villegas of Argentina will continue with the consultation process with the support of the CSP7 President in a facilitative role to achieve consensus on the working paper 'Transparency and Exchange of Information: Its Role in the Prevention of Diversion' presented by Argentina to CSP6. Ambassador Villegas will present the paper at the various CSP7 preparatory meetings, and garner the necessary support for its adoption by CSP7.

11. I trust that my conclusions on how to move these issues forward reflect your views and will enable us to take the next step in securing an outcome on these important matters that is satisfactory to all. I also trust/hope that I can rely on your shared desire for meaningful progress during the CSP7 cycle, in spite of the challenging circumstances we find ourselves in, to engage in the work ahead of us in the spirit of cooperation and collaboration.

12. I thank you all sincerely for your constructive participation in the consultations, as we work together to resolve these matters.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lansana GBERIE', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ambassador Lansana GBERIE

President: Seventh Conference of States Parties to the ATT