

Excellencies, Ambassadors,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Excellency, Mr President,

I would like to start by expressing my thanks to the Government of Japan and Ambassador Takamizawa for organizing the fourth ATT Conference of States Parties and chairing the Treaty process over the last year. Japan's devotion to ATT is another evidence of a decisive pacifist policy and the involvement of Japan in a global process aimed at making our world more secure and peaceful. I assure you that, to the best of our ability, Poland will support our honorable host on this path and cooperate with all state and non-governmental actors who are determined to follow the same way.

I would like to align Poland with the statement delivered by the European Union during this general debate and would like to add the following considerations in a national capacity.

Poland will continue to promote the norms of the Arms Trade Treaty. Fully – fledged implementation of the provisions of the Treaty and its universalization are key challenges ahead of us.

Only through implementation the Treaty will make a real difference, especially in the least developed countries, where conflicts are a major obstacle to development. Some States Parties have difficulties, be it of legislative or administrative nature, in meeting their obligations under the Treaty. We all should do our best to respond to their needs, also to show those undecided countries the benefits they could gain from joining the ATT community.

We welcome five new members that joined our family of State Parties: Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Kazakhstan and State of Palestine.

Promotion of the universalization of the Treaty should take into account the specificities of the various regions and states and be implemented with the support of non-governmental organizations, representatives of defence industry and regional organizations who can help better target international assistance. At the same time, Poland would like to express the conviction that there is a need to concentrate measures concerning the universalization of the Treaty on countries that are main producers, exporters and importers of arms. Their decision to join the Treaty would increase its real impact on effective control of global weapons transfers.

Recognizing that counter measures against diversion have proven to be an extremely difficult issue of export control systems, we declare our readiness to support the efforts aimed at finding effective solutions in this area.

Transparency is just as important because it helps build trust among countries from all corners of the world and thus strengthen peace and security. Transparency of reports prepared in accordance with the Treaty facilitates cooperation and assistance efforts by helping to identify areas where States Parties may be in need of support. Poland has a reliable arms control system which is an effective tool of diminishing the illicit trade in arms. We also publish annually a national report on the exports of arms and military equipment which data are provided to international organizations and EU partners. We encourage others to follow this path.

Last but not least, a word on international assistance. Poland stands ready to participate in outreach activities carried out under relevant EU programmes or financed by the ATT Secretariat. We are open to sharing knowledge and experience with those countries that require such assistance.

Let me finish, Mr President, by wishing you and all distinguished participants of this event constructive and forward – looking discussions. We do believe that the Fourth Conference of States Parties will bring tangible results and provide the solid ground for CSP 5.

Thank you.