

**Statement of Romania**  
**at the Fourth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty**  
**(Tokyo, Japan, August 2018)**

Mr. President,

At the outset, please allow me to congratulate you on your appointment as President of the Fourth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty and for your committed work during your tenure and to assure you of the Romanian's delegation full support over the next week. We would also like to express our gratitude to the ATT Secretariat, and particularly to its Head, Mr. Dladla, to the members of the Bureau and to the co-chairs of the working groups for their continued support. We also thank the Government of Japan for hosting us here, in Tokyo, and for its commitment to the ATT process.

While Romania fully shares the points raised in the European Union's statement, we would like to underline some aspects of national relevance:

The Arms Trade Treaty has an indispensable role in the preservation of security, freedom and peace. In order to translate treaty obligations into actions on the ground and save lives, we need to continue to focus on the two main priorities, the treaty universalization and its implementation.

Only through universal adherence will the Treaty be able to significantly reduce illicit arms flows and fulfill the goal we all share of creating a stable environment in which conventional arms are used in accordance with International Law, including Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law. All governments must ensure that conventional arms are traded in a responsible and accountable way, and must take all the necessary measures to prevent their diversion to terrorists, criminals and other unauthorized end-users.

Romania welcomes the States that acceded to the ATT since our last CSP, but in the same time would like to stress that almost half of the UN Member States are still not Parties to the Treaty. It's important to note that all UN Member States adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by consensus and the implementation of the ATT could be an indicator of commitment to achieve the SDGs. Therefore, we must intensify our efforts to address the specific concerns of those States that have so far proved reluctant to accede to the Treaty and explain them the benefits of joining the ATT community. A first step would be to convince them to participate in our meetings as observers.

Romania recognizes the excellent work done by the Presidents of the CSPs, states, regional organisations and civil society to increase participation in the Treaty and to strengthen its effective implementation. We note that industry has been less engaged in this process, but we are of the opinion that its contribution is crucial, since industry is able to reach out to its business partners and customers in other countries, particularly those that are not Parties to the Treaty. As we heard from the industry's representatives during the preparatory process of this CSP, they are willing to help us in our universalization and implementation endeavours, so we strongly support the idea of including them in

our outreach activities. It remains our firm believe that cooperation at all levels represents a strong pillar in our collective fight against the illicit trade of conventional arms.

Mr. President,

Romania strongly believes that the success of the ATT resides in its full implementation. The Romanian delegation participated actively in the preparatory process of this Conference, and we consider that we have made excellent progress in moving discussions from administrative matters to substantive issues related to the concrete implementation of the Treaty such as diversion, risk assessment, elements to consider when establishing a national control system, information exchange, reporting issues etc.. Even though States Parties implemented ATT provisions from different baselines, their level of resources varies, they have different arms trade profiles, national needs and capacities, the working groups represent an excellent platform for the exchange of information between them which enables progress. We look forward to discussing the proposals contained in the reports and draft papers of the working groups and we strongly support the extension of their mandates so that we can take discussions on substantive implementation even further. Intersessional work has proven beneficial to our deliberations and the continuation of it remains crucial for a good functioning of the regime.

Also, Romania believes that the three working groups should continue to explore linkages between the Treaty and the SDGs that are relevant to their mandates in the context of their respective meetings and work plans.

Mr. President,

Transparency is a key principal leading to confidence building among states and respecting reporting obligations represents a crucial element for a good functioning of the regime. We note that a worrying number of States Parties have not submitted their initial and annual reports yet. We urge them to respect their obligations and, acknowledging that many States Parties may encounter reporting difficulties, we express our willingness to assist them on compiling their national reports. At the same time, we reiterate Romania's availability to share its national experience and expertise with those States requiring assistance in implementing the provisions of the Treaty, both in its national capacity as well as part of the team involved in the European Union's ATT outreach program.

We wish all a productive week and we're looking forward to a successful outcome of the Fourth Conference of States Parties.

Thank you, Mr. President!