

**STATEMENT BY ZAMBIA DURING THE FOURTH CONFERENCE OF STATE PARTIES TO THE ARMS TRADE TREATY.**

I THANK YOU MR PRESIDENT FOR GIVING ME THIS OPPORTUNITY. ZAMBIA JOINS THE REST OF THE WORLD IN POURING OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES ON THE PASSING AWAY OF THE FORMER UN SECRETARY GENERAL. WE STAND WITH GHANA ON THIS DARK MOMENT. SECONDLY, I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR ELECTION AS CHAIR OF THE 4CSP, THE PREPARATION YOU HAVE PUT IN PLACE FOR HOSTING THIS EVENT AND FOR THE WARM WELCOME TO JAPAN.

SINCE BECOMING A STATE PARTY TO THE ATT, ZAMBIA HAS PUT IN PLACE MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT THE TREATY. IN THE ABSENCE OF A LEGISLATION CAPABLE OF OVERSEEING THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY, ZAMBIA CONSTITUTED AN INTER MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ATT AND COME UP WITH PROGRAMMES CAPABLE OF BRIDGING THE GAP CREATED BY NOT HAVING STRONG INSTITUTIONAL BASE AND LEGISLATION.

MR PRESIDENT, ZAMBIA APPRECIATES THE ROLE PLAYED BY CIVIL SOCIETY AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS IN PROPPING UP STATES TO BE UP TO DATE IN THEIR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY THROUGH VARIOUS MEASURES SUCH AS CAPACITY BUILDING FOR MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS. IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS AND SOME INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS, WE HAVE MANAGED TO BROADEN THE KNOWLEDGE BASE OF MOST KEY STAKEHOLDERS DEALING WITH THE ATT. WE ARE NOW AT A STAGE WHERE WE ARE LOOKING AT PUTTING IN PLACE CONTROL SYSTEMS CAPABLE OF HANDLING NOT ONLY THE ATT BUT OTHER DISARMAMENT REGIMES. WE STILL NEED MORE SUPPORT IN MANY AREAS AND IT'S FOR THIS REASON WE EQUALLY WELCOME THE SETTING UP OF THE VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND WHICH ASSISTS STATES IN FUNDING PROJECTS THAT AIM TO ADDRESS THE GAPS IDENTIFIED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ATT.

MR CHAIR, DESPITE THE EFFORTS MADE BY YOU IN UNIVERSALISING THE TREATY, WE ARE STILL WORRIED BY THE SLOW PACE AT WHICH SIGNATORY AND OBSERVER STATES HAVE MADE IN BECOMING STATE MEMBERS TO THIS TREATY. IN THIS REGARD WE WISH TO URGE THEM INTO JOINING THE TREATY AND ADD THEIR VOICE IN CHAMPIONING THE NOBLE CAUSE AND PRINCIPLES OF

THE TREATY.THIS WORLD CAN ONLY BE FREE FROM ANY FORMS OF HUMAN SUFFERING BROUGHT ABOUT BY ILLICIT TRADE OF ARMS IF ALL OF US ADD OUR VOICE AND SING THE SAME SONG THROUGH BEING STATE PARTY TO THE TREATY.EQUALLY MEANINGFUL ACTUALISATION OF THE ATT ASPIRATIONS CAN ONLY COME ABOUT IF WE ABIDE BY THE TREATY PRINCIPLES. TALK WITHOUT ACTIONS IS NOT ENOUGH.

ZAMBIA LOOKS FORWARD TO A PRODUCTIVE DISCUSSION DURING THIS CONFERENCE AND HOPE MORE STATES WILL JOIN THE TREATY.WE EQUALLY WOULD LIKE TO SEE STATE PARTIES TO STRICTLY ABIDE BY THE ATT PRINCIPLES. THIS IN THE LONG RUN WILL ENCOURAGE THOSE ON THE FENCE TO BE PARTY TO THE TREATY

I THANK YOU MR PRESIDENT.