

CSP4 Matters pertaining to the Secretariat and Financial Contributions: UK Statement

Mr President

I would like to support the comments made on behalf of the European Union and its Member States and add some further remarks in a national capacity.

States Parties meeting their financial commitments, as well as effective and efficient financial management are essential to ensure the Treaty can function well, and deliver on its core objectives.

We take note of the **proposals to address unpaid financial contributions**. We are concerned that on average 39 per cent of States Parties are not paying their assessed contributions and the impact of non-payment. All States Parties have committed to supporting the work of the Arms Trade Treaty and must meet their financial obligations. We support the work underway to explore all options to ensure that States Parties do so, but more needs to be done.

The current financial rules are robust in challenging non-payment and we must ensure that these provisions are maintained and implemented. We must also ensure that any new proposals incentivise States Parties to meet their obligations. We continue to believe that a reserve fund will be

a disincentive to those who don't pay and we cannot support this proposal, as previously presented, particularly in the absence of progress on other aspects of finance management and capacity.

In parallel, it is important to work on efficiency and liquidity. We believe that **proper financial management** is key to ensure value for money and accountability. While we welcome the ongoing efforts, more needs to be done to deliver realistic, concrete proposals.

Finally, we encourage the Management Committee to continue to identify areas where financial savings can be made. This includes ensuring the Secretariat remains efficient, as well as taking a strategic approach to scheduling meetings.