



## **GEORGIA**

**Arms Trade Treaty  
Fourth Conference of States Parties  
Tokyo, 20-24 August 2018  
Treaty Universalization Segment**

Mr. President,  
Distinguished Colleagues,

The unregulated trade in conventional arms continues to fuel armed conflicts, terrorism and organized crime. Georgia is convinced that universal adherence to the ATT would positively contribute to peace and security.

Since Georgia does not have a sizable arms industry and arms exports, the transit of arms through its territory represents a main challenge. Georgia's transit potential is interconnected with the geo-political and geo-economic functions on regional and international levels. Irresponsible and unregulated arms transfers, which can intensify and prolong conflicts in our region, may lead to regional instability and hinder social and economic development therein. Georgia supports the principles of greater responsibility and transparency in the arms trade enshrined in the Arms Trade Treaty to the full extent.

According to Georgia's outstanding role in the region as regards the ATT status, Georgia continues to work hard to promote the Treaty and its universalization with a particular focus on our own region.

Under the umbrella of the EU ATT Outreach Project II Georgia will host two sub-regional conferences primarily focused on effective implementation and universalization of the Treaty. Working with German Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control (BAFA) and Expertise France we hope to bring together representatives from our region with a view to improving universalization and implementation of the Treaty.

Dear Colleagues,

We are confident that as more states, sign, ratify, and implement the Arms Trade Treaty, existing loophole that enables illicit and irresponsible arms sales will begin to close.

Thank you.