

Ninth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty

ATT Preparatory Conference

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INDUSTRY THEMATIC FOCUS RESPONSE

Madam President,

We wish to begin by expressing our thanks to you for setting out the consultations that you will undertake on the theme of your Presidency, which is the role of the industry and the ATT. This transparent and consultative approach is greatly appreciated from our side.

As is the case for all other stakeholders, industry has a role to play in supporting implementation and compliance with the obligations of the ATT, especially in preventing the transit and transshipment of conventional weapons which are in violation of the ATT; and preventing diversion.

Human rights due diligence is not a new concept for industry. After all, human rights is a cornerstone of the ATT. While the ATT focuses on the role of States Parties in addressing the human rights impacts of conventional weapons transfers, industry also has responsibilities in respect of human rights. An instrument that continues to grow in strength and sets out the responsibilities of all industries, including the arms industry, is the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Engaging in further discussion on how the Guiding Principles apply to industry will support and strengthen the objectives of the ATT.

Thank you.