

Statement of Germany – Treaty Universalization – CSP10

Mr. President, Germany aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. We would like to add some remarks in our national capacity:

10 years after the entry into force of the ATT, universalization remains a top priority.

CSP9 has set out the framework for enhancing the work of the Working Group on Treaty Universalization and we thank the Co-Chairs of the WGTU for their work. We have to continue putting the comprehensive proposals adopted by CSP9 into operation.

Allow me to highlight some points of particular importance to Germany going forward. Let me begin with the first workstream of structured universalization efforts:

1. We welcome the mid-term approach of focusing universalization efforts on dedicated regions for initially three years. Taking into account the stepped approach with a primary focus on Signatory States, Germany sees Asia-Pacific as a region to focus universalization efforts on. Of course, this goes not to say that universalization efforts in other regions cannot be pursued at the same time.
2. Germany believes that taking stock of the situation and status of ratification in Signatory States requires joint efforts by WGTU office holders, States Parties, the ATT Secretariat and civil society. Compiling data on the situation and status of ratification in Signatory States is key to structure universalization efforts and to tailor individual assistance to national circumstances. From the experience of the German Presidency, rounds of demarches that were supported by many States Parties, proved successful as a tool for outreach and a measure of taking stock.
3. CSP Presidents and Vice-Presidents could support this work of the WGTU by exchanging with international organizations and regional actors. They could also liaise between States, the ATT Secretariat and other ATT office holders - most notably other Working Group Chairs and subsidiary bodies like VTF and the ATT Sponsorship Program.

Germany also supports the proposed approach to the second workstream of the WGTU - structured discussions on national ratification / accession and domestication practices.

1. We believe that the comprehensive list of guiding questions will facilitate a beneficial exchange of best practices. They also reflect that universalization is inextricably linked with Treaty implementation and requires coordinated actions in both processes. In our view, the proposed approach directs the focus during the universalization process rightfully to individual, tailored approaches to States.
2. Looking at the task of taking stock of the situation or status of ratification in Signatory States on the one hand and the list of practical ratification questions on the other, Germany sees an opportunity to bridge these two proposed workstreams of WGTU by inviting both Signatory and other interested non-state parties to provide presentations on ATT ratification / domestication to the WGTU.

4. We also believe that including the views of outreach agencies that have supported ratification and domestication activities may prove beneficial - not only for exchanging best practices, but also for universalization progress at large. Best examples are the outreach programs by the European Union such as the P2P and ATT Outreach Projects, implemented by Expertise France and BAFA, as well as our national activities.

Allow me, Mr. President, to express Germany's continuing appreciation for various kinds of universalization and implementation efforts, including raising awareness among political decision makers and organizing country visits to that end. Universalization remains a common task of all the States Parties and well beyond, and Germany especially values the crucial contributions by Non-Governmental Organizations and civil society.

In conclusion, Mr. President, let me underline Germany's steadfast commitment to the universalization of the ATT. We stand ready to support universalization efforts and the further development of the working plan, also in the intersessional period.

Thank you.