



EU Key Messages

Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation Arms Trade Treaty

Geneva, 9-10 May 2023

Mr. Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States. The candidate countries North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Republic of Moldova and Bosnia and Herzegovina¹, the potential candidate country Georgia and the EFTA countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this statement.

Sub-working Group on Articles 6&7

With regard to Article 7(2) – Mitigation measures / Topic 11 - the EU would like to inform, for the purpose of building a list of references, that it developed and adopted in 2021 an Integrated Methodological Framework (IMF) that could be understood as a “jointly developed and agreed programme” for the purpose of the European Peace Facility to set out guiding principles and possible concerns to be addressed when assisting external partner countries, including by arms deliveries. The IMF involves both pre-delivery assessment and post-delivery controls. The IMF is not a public document but its extensive summary and structure are available publicly. The IMF is being implemented for the ongoing EPF assistance funded by the EU.

Sub-working Group on Article 11

The EU thanks the Facilitator for the proposal of operational steps for the introduction and implementation of post-delivery cooperation and coordination and supports the idea of including this proposal as a deliverable of CSP9. The list of operational steps provides a useful structure for internal work and international cooperation of interested States Parties and as such can form the basis of best-practices document to be endorsed by CSP9.

¹ North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

Discussion on forthcoming topics and working methods

The conclusion of the multi-year work of WGETI will hopefully bring about endorsement of a number of analytical documents and recommendations. Building upon this solid foundation, the future work should focus on practical issues and the Group should benefit from a more holistic and broader mandate. Future discussions should not be structured and focused on a specific article for two years, so that each meeting can address specific aspects of various articles. It will allow to have a debate on concrete, practical challenges, including how to prevent diversion and mitigate risks in a cross-cutting manner.

The EU would like to propose examples of topics to be discussed by the Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation under its future mandate: exchange by States Parties on how they fulfil Treaty obligations in daily practice with concrete examples, focused on “troubleshooting”; increasing uniformity of terms and meanings attached to definitions related to arms trade in order to reduce misunderstandings; establishing good standards of transparency in post-delivery cooperation, to improve cooperation and build confidence; building a toolbox for practical cooperation, particularly in the area of diversion and other disruptions of State control over arms trade; and ensuring the effective utilization of the Information Exchange Platform and Diversion Information Exchange Forum (DIEF) as platforms ensuring cooperation in the ATT context.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.