

FRANCE

Dear Sir/Madam,

France would like to thank you for the documents sent on 4 and 18 June and has the honor to share the following comments:

Management Committee Revised draft elements for a Secretariat's procedure regarding Rule 8(1)D (Guidelines for Financial Arrangements)

We thank the management committee for all the hard work done regarding the rule 8(1)D and its procedure.

We would like to suggest the following amendment to clarify the language: *“Once a state party is in arrears with its contributions for two or more years, the measures outlined in rule 8.1.d will come into effect, unless expressly waived by the CSP. Once a payment plan is considered and approved by the CSP, the payment of the first instalment will initiate the arrangement ; i.e. the state party concerned shall have the measures waived, for as long as it complies with its obligations under the arrangement “*

Revised Working Paper on the CSP7 President's Theme Draft Working Paper presented by the CSP7 President: *Strengthening efforts to eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and ensure efficient stockpile management.*

We thank the Presidency for its paper and support the priority chosen: the fight against illicit trafficking and diversion is one of the two pillars of the Treaty and remains a priority for France. We also support the mention of the need to strengthen interactions / synergies with all existing instruments.

Regarding the paragraph “Strengthening ATT implementation by enhancing safe and secure stockpile management, the proposed measure in relation to the issue of assurances on storage conditions raises concerns about its feasibility because it seems to us it will be particularly difficult to implement (*“To further prevent diversion, importing and exporting states could agree to specific conditions and assurances with regard to storage facilities location, conditions, specific management measures and security), marking off items or end-user controls, prior to export approval”*).

Regarding the possible outputs from the CSP7 focus on the illicit trade in SALW and stockpile management, we suggest the following amendment that would be more consistent with the Treaty in our view:

“States Parties ~~should~~ are encouraged to provide information on their national practices relating to “mitigating measures” in the context of Article 7(4), including related to stockpile security: what these can be and how they are implemented.”

France would like to thank the Secretariat and the Presidency for all its efforts and remains committed to continuing the work under the Treaty.

We remain at your disposal should you have any further question.

Best regards,

Philippine

Philippine Bentégeat

Représentation permanente de la France auprès de la Conférence du désarmement
Conseillère / counsellor