

France - email received on 17 August 2020

Ambassador, Madam, Sir

Please find attached the written commentary of France and the United Kingdom seeking to break the procedures of silence on the following matters:

Decision 9: WGETI Sub-working Group on Articles 6&7 – Multi-year workplan

Decision 10: WGETI Sub-working Group on Article 9 – Multi-year workplan

Decision 11: WGETI Sub-working Group on Article 11 – Multi-year workplan

The delegation of France and the delegation of the United Kingdom remain at your disposal to discuss the matter if necessary.

Yours faithfully,

Yann Hwang

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Decision 9: WGETI Sub-working Group on Articles 6&7 – Multi-year workplan

Decision 10: WGETI Sub-working Group on Article 9 – Multi-year workplan

Decision 11: WGETI Sub-working Group on Article 11 – Multi-year workplan

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France has the honour to inform the Secretariat that together with the UK, we are breaking the procedure of silence regarding the documents referred to above, Decision 9, Decision 10 and Decision 11 for the following reasons:

1. It is our understanding that procedures of silence are provided for in the Rules of Procedure solely for the adoption of decisions on matters of procedure. They do not apply to substantive decisions requiring discussion and consultation between States Parties.
2. It is our view that a number of decisions presented for adoption at CSP6 are substantive, and that their adoption under the silence procedure would be inconsistent with the important exchanges provided for in working groups and plenary.
3. The multi-year workplan for the WGETI sub-working group on Articles 6 & 7, the multi-year workplan for the WGETI sub-working group on Article 9 and the multi-year workplan for the WGETI sub-working group on Article 11 proposed for adoption raise a number of substantive points which should be discussed between States Parties.
4. We suggest adding the following sentence to Decision 9, Decision 10 and Decision 11 : ***“States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty: Welcome the document listed below **as a living document of a voluntary nature to be reviewed and updated regularly by the Working Group, as appropriate**”*** contained in Annex A to the Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation Chair’s Draft Report to CSP6 (contained in document ATT/CSP6.WGETI/2020/CHAIR/606/Conf.Rep), and to be posted on the ATT website” consistent with the language in the CSP5 final report ENDS./.