

**Statement of the Federal Republic of Germany at virtual CSP 6, Geneva, 17
August 2020**

Mr. President,

1. During these times of unprecedented pandemic crisis, Germany would like to congratulate the Argentinian Presidency as well as the ATT Secretariat for their successful efforts undertaken to secure the operability of the ATT. Our gratitude also extends to the Chairpersons, contributors and donors of the various ATT working groups and sub working groups as well as the ATT's internal and adjacent institutional committees for their dedication and their tenacity. It is an uplifting signal that the ATT upholds its capacity of taking all decisions necessary even in times of uncertainty.
2. Germany fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the EU. We would like to take the occasion to add the following remarks in our national capacity.
3. Despite the recent limitations to convening in order to exchange ideas over the ATT's progress, it is very reassuring to see how many positive developments have come to pass since CSP5:
4. Overall, we are especially delighted to note that states continue to accede to the Treaty even in times of a rampant pandemic. On this occasion, we congratulate the Maldives, Namibia, China, Sao Tome and Principe, Afghanistan, and Niue for their decision to become the latest ATT States Parties since CSP5.
5. Another laudable accomplishment of the Argentinian presidency is the introduction of a "Diversion Information Exchange Forum" as a new instrument designed to strengthen trust between states. We are looking forward to making use of this excellent opportunity to learn from the experience of other States Parties and share our own best practices.
6. Apart from these favourable trends, sadly, we noted a continuation of a downward tendency in compliance with the annual reporting obligations. This troubling development gives rise to grave concerns. We would like to remind States Parties that reporting is not a voluntary option but a legal obligation. By acceding to the ATT, all states vow to adhere to its principles. We are, nevertheless, aware of the challenges comprehensive reporting

may pose to States Parties. Therefore, Germany will continue to support ATT mechanisms designed to address this issue. In order to complement these efforts, we will also keep on working with civil society organisations.

7. Another critical point we feel obliged to raise is the alarming financial situation of the ATT: Outstanding contributions put the ATT institutions and activities at risk. Germany urges all states in arrears to pay their contributions without delay. It is crucial that all states abide by the ATT Financial Rules in full. We'd like to take the opportunity to highlight the generous in-kind support offered to the ATT secretariat by Switzerland, for which we are grateful.
8. As a member of the Management Committee Germany, together with Costa Rica, prepared a document that, if adopted by the Conference, will enable States Parties in arrears with their assessed contributions for two or more years to enter into a repayment plan. Such a plan is beneficial to the ATT community at large and to the State Party concerned in particular. Overall income will be regularised. Also, the State Party that has its voting rights suspended automatically once arrears for two years have accumulated will have these rights restored the moment the repayment plan takes effect.
9. Mr. President, albeit being a rather young treaty, the ATT has achieved several milestones so far. But there is still more work to be done to help strengthen the ATT and disseminate the principles at its core even further.
10. An increasing universalization in the Asia-Pacific region is a promising signal for closing still existing regional gaps. Germany calls on all Signatory States to fulfil their initial commitments and stands ready to provide political as well as professional support for any state willing to accede.
11. The promising development of ever more states becoming party to the ATT underlines the importance of the ATT's newly established sub working group on ATT articles 6 & 7. Providing administrative guidance on how to implement the Treaty will remain at the core of our common efforts. Establishing effective export control authorities and national control lists are crucial preconditions for the ATT to take full effect. However, Germany encourages all States Parties to increase their efforts even further: The established principle of ex-ante end-user certification can be

complemented by post-shipment verifications allowing for continuous dialogue and deepened trust between exporting and importing countries.

12. Despite the current travel restrictions Germany's BAFA continues to engage with partner countries on Treaty Implementation. We are happy to share with States Parties that the respective outreach activities financed by the EU have been extended until mid-2021. Beyond this, Germany remains firmly committed to providing partner countries with long-term and ongoing support for the implementation of the ATT.
13. Likewise, Germany remains committed to support the ATT Sponsorship Programme and to actively participate in the VTF Selection Committee. Being able to initiate a fourth project cycle despite the Coronavirus is a remarkable achievement, only made possible by the tireless efforts of the VTF Chairmanship support by the ATT Secretariat.
14. Until the end of this year Germany continues to enjoy the privilege of serving as non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. Here, the Women, Peace and Security agenda and its cross linkages to the SDGs are among our core priorities. Therefore, we will continue to explore existing connections between WPS, the SDGs and the ATT and appreciate any support committed to this effort.
15. Thank you, Mr. President.