**Ireland – General Statement**

**ATT CSP10, 19 – 23 August 2024**

**Geneva**

Thank you

At the outset, allow me to convey my delegations sincere condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Stefan OTT, as well as to the ATT Secretariat, for the terrible news of his tragic passing away just a couple of weeks ago. Mr. OTT was a kind and dedicated colleague and friend to many of us, and he will be deeply missed.

President, allow me to congratulate you, Ambassador Rusu, on assuming the Presidency of the Tenth Conference of States Parties to the ATT. My delegation would like to thank you and your team, as well as the ATT Secretariat and Working Group Chairs, for the excellent work conducted throughout this CSP cycle. I assure you of our full support in your endeavours towards a successful Tenth CSP.

Ireland aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union, and would like to offer the following remarks in a national capacity.

President,

We meet at an important milestone, as we celebrate 10 years since the entry into force of the ATT. This occasion provides a valuable opportunity for the ATT community to reflect on past achievements and challenges, and to chart a path forward. We must redouble our commitment to advancing the Treaty’s object and purpose, namely: to reduce human suffering through establishing the highest possible common international standards for regulating the international trade in conventional arms, and preventing their diversion.

To this end, we thank the UK for the initiative to develop a Political Declaration on this important occasion, which Ireland is happy to endorse. The Declaration recalls the object and purpose of the ATT, including: its role in promoting compliance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law; its pioneering contributions with regard to preventing gender-based violence and diversion; the need to promote the full, equal, and meaningful participation of women, and the critical role of civil society. Importantly, the Declaration lays the basis for further conversations on improving the ATT over the next 10 years, including through a possible set of goals and actions. Ireland stands ready to engage further on this forward-looking piece, and work with States Parties and other stakeholders to achieve meaningful and measurable progress in the years to come.

President,

The ATT forms a crucial part of a comprehensive international regime that, when fully universalised and effectively implemented, will contribute to peace, stability, security, and development, including facilitating the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals. With this in mind, we must redouble our collective efforts towards improving Treaty universalization rates; ensuring timely, comprehensive and public initial and annual reporting; realising the practical, real-life application of the Treaty’s core prohibitions and obligations, and ensuring effective Treaty implementation more broadly.

Over the course of the last year, the ATT has contended with a number of challenges, most notably regarding the application of, and compliance with, Articles 6 and 7. We welcome the Ad Hoc discussion held under the sub-working group on emerging implementation issues last February, and we encourage that future similar meetings be allocated sufficient time to address the discussion item. It is vital that we address issues of concern head on, so that the Treaty remains responsive to real-world events and fit for purpose.

Ireland calls on all ATT States Parties to fulfil their obligations under the Treaty, including under Articles 6 & 7 on prohibitions and risk assessment. Fulfilling these legal obligations is critical to achieving our collective goal of reducing human suffering. It is important that States Parties take due account of the work of relevant UN agencies and actors, including UN mandate holders based in Geneva, when assessing their obligations under Articles 6 & 7.

President,

Ireland welcomes the Gambia and Malawi as the 114th and 115th States Parties to the ATT, which is an encouraging signal amidst static universalization rates more broadly. We look forward to discussing later this week the proposals under the Working Group on Treaty Universalization, aimed towards reinvigorating accession and ratification rates, and hope to take the necessary decisions to better tailor our efforts in this regard.

Regarding transparency and reporting, Ireland is deeply concerned at the record low rates of reporting - a legal obligation under the ATT. Without timely, accurate, comprehensive, and public reporting, the Treaty will struggle to achieve one of its core purposes - to promote cooperation, transparency and responsible action by States Parties in the international arms trade. This is essential to building confidence among States Parties. We look forward to finding solutions to these challenges under the WGTR.

In addition to the joint statement delivered by Mexico, which Ireland supports, we reiterate the importance of a gender-responsive approach in disarmament and arms control. Gender-responsive arms control policies and programmes have proven to be more successful and sustainable. It is important that we continue to strengthen efforts towards ensuring women’s full, equal, and meaningful participation at all levels, as well as ensuring gender-responsive approaches to programming.

President,

We thank you and your team for your working paper on *The Role of Interagency Cooperation*. We welcome the renewed focus and impetus that your paper has given to this important, cross-cutting theme, which plays a critical role on ensuring full and effective implementation of the ATT. In this vein, we welcome the recommendations in your paper, and encourage States Parties to carry them forward throughout future CSP cycles, along with the previous thematic topics.

Lastly, we thank the Management Committee for their ongoing work on the review of the ATT programme of Work, as well as the Evaluation committee for the important task of selecting a new Head of the ATT Secretariat, and look forward to discussing these matters later this week. We sincerely thank Mr. Dumisani Dladla, for his committed and skilled leadership over the years, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

Full version will be sent to the Secretariat

I thank you.