



IRELAND

Sixth Conference of States Parties to the
Arms Trade Treaty

Geneva, 17-21 August 2020

Written Intervention on Treaty Implementation

President,

At the outset I would like to thank the Chair of the Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation (WGETI), and register our appreciation for the work of the facilitators of the sub-working groups on -Articles 6 and 7, Article 9 and Article 11. We are deeply appreciative of the extensive efforts that went into preparations for meetings of the Working Group in the current circumstances and thank them for their efforts.

President,

Ireland supports the conclusions and recommendations as contained in the WGETI Chair's Draft Report to the CSP6. The implementation of the ATT is a national responsibility which is embedded in the framework of national control systems.

Though there is no 'one-size-fits-all' approach - as States start from different points of departure, with different legal and administrative arrangements and levels of resources - all States can benefit from a regular exchange of information and good practices, to ensure effective Treaty implementation. We welcome the use of the Information Exchange Platform on the ATT Website, which has been invaluable in recent months.

This collaborative approach can contribute to a harmonised understanding of the Treaty's provisions and is helped by a structured and consistent programme of work. In this context, we welcome the comprehensive multi-year work plans on Articles 6, 7, 9 and 11 provided by the ATT WGETI. These work plans will aid our collective understanding of these provisions and we thank the chairs for their efforts in preparing these documents.

President,

Ireland also recognises the valuable contributions to Treaty implementation made by civil society and will continue to support efforts that involves the collaboration of States and Civil Society in order to promote effective treaty implementation. To this end, in January 2020

Ireland was happy to co-host the Arms Trade Treaty Expert Group Meeting with Germany and Saferworld in Dublin in preparation for the CSP. The Expert Group is an informal dialogue among diplomats, national policy practitioners and experts and involves the sharing of experiences on Treaty implementation. In doing so, the aim is to promote a clear understanding of how to maximise the effectiveness of the Treaty, and facilitate consistent and robust implementation. In line with the thematic focus of CSP6, a large part of the lively and constructive exchanges focused on diversion and risk mitigation.

To further enhance the effective implementation of Treaty obligations, Ireland has also committed to funding The Stimson Centre in developing two good practice guidance tools. The first will consider preventing the diversion of exported arms. The second will consider the conduction of gender-based violence risk assessment.

President,

The effective implementation of the ATT is a key step in preventing the illicit and irresponsible transfers of arms which continue to contribute to conflict, instability and violence. It promotes accountability and transparency in the international arms trade. The universal application and full implementation of the ATT will enhance international security, reduce violence in both conflict and non-conflict settings, and can bring us closer to achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda. The universalisation, and full and effective implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty can contribute to better achieving all relevant SDGs, especially, but not limited to Goal 16 and Goal 5.

Thank you.

ENDS.