



MAG Statement

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Thank you, Mr President,

Let me first thank you and the Secretariat for your essential work. As this is the first time that MAG takes the floor this week, please allow me to congratulate the Philippines on accession to the Treaty. We are also glad to hear the commitment of our long-term partner in the state of Gambia, as well as other States to join the Treaty.

MAG is an international humanitarian organisation working in conflict prevention, response, and recovery by supporting the development of technical and institutional capacities, especially in physical security and stockpile management of small arms and light weapons and ammunition in Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, and the Asia-Pacific region. Our engagement with the ATT Conference draws on our technical and political experience and expertise and is informed by the needs we see from States and affected communities on the ground.

The focus of this year's conference, post-shipment controls and post-shipment cooperation, should be seen as an occasion to build and strengthen synergies among different stakeholders, including regional organisations and civil society, as well as an excellent opportunity to build long-term capacities in every State to fulfil Article 5 and the other Articles of the ATT. MAG welcomes the recent work undertaken by SIPRI on synergies between PSSM and post-shipment controls, and we appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing discussions on this topic.

The implementation of the ATT should transcend traditional paradigms, especially the dichotomy between importing and exporting States, as also reminded by Ambassador Higginson and in line with a spirit of international solidarity. States and lawful non-state actors, including those in developing countries, must also receive the support and guidance needed to effectively uphold ATT obligations. Furthermore, investment in national capacities should concern the full-life cycle of weapons, including their destruction.

Mr President,

For MAG, the paramount humanitarian purpose of the ATT should drive and shape international cooperation and assistance. We all know that the uncontrolled circulation of arms at international and national levels have extensive, multifaceted, and lasting effects on the lives of many people all around the world. In this vein, reducing the impact of diversion and uncontrolled proliferation is a shared responsibility, particularly in terms of contributing to the SDGs, upholding human rights and international humanitarian law, and combating transnational organised crime.

Finally, to guarantee a truly effective implementation of the Treaty, international cooperation and assistance should be as inclusive as possible and drawing upon the views and needs of every stakeholder, including those that are not normally involved in disarmament affairs. MAG would like to remind that women and girls should have an active and meaningful role in these fields at all levels and should not only be treated as victims.

I thank you, Mr President

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