

MALAWI'S STATEMENT MADE AT CSP8 PREPARATORY MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 16 FEBRUARY, 2022

-Thanks so much for giving us the floor Mr Moderator,

-Because this is Malawi's maiden speech allow us to make some introductory remarks which will largely be to echo the sentiments that other delegates have already made but they are worthy repeating and also for the record;

-Firstly, we would like to congratulate the Arms Trade Treaty Secretariat for making this meeting possible despite the Covid pandemic difficulties;

-Secondly, we would like applause the secretariat for the wonderful work being done to, among others coordinate the activities of various working groups on the treaty's effective implementation;

-Thirdly, Malawi would also like recognise the commitment being made by the different working groups on the effective treaty implementation. This commitment is being seen by the progress being made in formulating draft guidelines that will help the effective implementation of treaty;

-Having said that allow us to make the following general comments:

-Malawi agrees with all previous presenters that effective treaty implementation will help curb the illicit movement of conventional arms and consequently help to curb untold miseries that stem from illegal possession of the same;

-We noted with gratitude from the presentations that were made to this assembly that some states parties have already started aligning their national legislation to be in line with the Treaty. This shows the global commitment to end illicit movement of conventional arms which will also contribute immensely to world peace and security;

-Now turning to the issue under discussion:

-Diversion is one of the key ways that would assist in conventional arms falling in wrong hands.

-We note though that dealing with diversion is a complex issue because of the multiplicity of stakeholders involved in conventional arms transportation and transit;

-Malawi would like to adopt the guide lines which have been made in this paper as they have by and large addressed most legal and other huddles that might be faced in the fight against the illicit movement of conventional arms;

-We would also like to note that dealing with diversion need a multi-sectoral approach because of the multiplicity of parties involved in the transit and transportation of conventional fire arms. This means that the successful eradication of diversion depends largely on the goodwill of all states parties;

-In this regard, Malawi would like to plead with all states parties to make sure that they do the needful so that diversion can be dealt with decisively.

-Thank you very much for your attention.