

STATEMENT OF MONTENEGRO
EIGHTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO THE ARMS TRADE TREATY
Geneva, 22-26 August 2022

-General Debate-

Mr. President,

Let me express our gratitude to the German Presidency and ATT Secretariat for their efforts in conducting the CSP8 preparatory process and commitment to the strengthening of the Treaty's regime.

Montenegro aligns itself to the statements of the European Union.

Mr. President,

Regrettably, we are convening this conference against the backdrop of Russia's ongoing unjustified and unprovoked aggression against Ukraine, which Montenegro condemns in the strongest possible terms.

Mr. President,

Montenegro remains devoted to the further promoting, improving and safeguarding of the regime and values established by the ATT, recognizing its role in establishing the highest possible common international standards for regulating the global trade in conventional arms. In addition to this, we remain a committed advocate of its universalization and congratulate the Philippines on the accession.

Prevention of diversion is a crucial obligation of the States Parties to ensure that weapons do not fall into the wrong hands. With that regard, we commend the focus of the German Presidency on post-shipment controls that can be an important supplementary tool to strengthen the effectiveness of national arms export control and to help prevent diversion. Further, we welcome the first meeting of the Diversion Information Exchange Forum (DIEF), to be chaired by Mexico and we express our full support to its distinguished Chair.

Mr. President,

The existing experience has reaffirmed the significance of international cooperation and assistance for strengthening the implementation of the Treaty, through broad range of activities. Likewise, the Voluntary Trust Fund has proven as an important tool for strengthening efforts toward the effective implementation of the Treaty.

Nevertheless, one of the prerogatives for building mutual confidence and showing transparency regarding the implementation of the Treaty is timely and regular reporting. In that regard, Montenegro has submitted all annual reports and made them public, with a strong belief that transparency is one of the crucial pillars of the ATT.

Also, we highly value the inclusive character of the ATT meetings for all stakeholders as an important component for strengthening the Treaty's implementation.

It is important that the gender dimension to be recognized and supported during the ATT's implementation.

When it comes to the financial stability all States Parties can contribute to it through timely and regular payment of their contributions.

Mr President,

To conclude, let me reiterate the full commitment of Montenegro to responsibly implement the Arms Trade Treaty.

I thank you.