



**STATEMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
at the Sixth Conference of State Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty
Geneva, 17 – 21 August 2020**

Mr. President, Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mr. President, allow me to congratulate you and your team for the work you have undertaken during the past months in the process leading up to this Conference, which was particularly challenging due to the strenuous circumstances put upon us all by the COVID-19 epidemic.

In addition to the statement of the European Union, I would like to contribute to this important discussion by pointing out some additional perspectives in my national capacity.

Mr. President, I wish to reiterate Slovenia's support for the full implementation and universalization of the Arms Trade Treaty. In this connection, we welcome the latest accessions and ratifications by the Maldives, Namibia, China, Sao Tome and Principe, Afghanistan and Niue, and call on all observer States and States not party to the Treaty to ratify, or accede to it as soon as possible.

We are concerned with the continuous downward trend in compliance with the annual reporting obligations. Transparency and exchange of information are vital aspects of the Treaty and the submissions of initial and annual reports are representative of the commitment of a State Party to the Treaty. Connected to exchange of information, Slovenia supports the establishment of the Diversion Information Exchange Forum and welcomes the working paper on "Transparency and Exchange of Information: Its role in the prevention of diversion".

Mr. President, Slovenia is convinced that support to the national implementation of the Treaty is of utmost importance. In this connection, we are pleased to inform that Slovenia has donated 20.000 EUR to the Voluntary Trust Fund.

We urge all States Parties, which have not yet done so, to settle their financial obligations as soon as possible. Timely payment of annual assessed contributions is of utmost importance and is a prerequisite for the sustainability of the ATT.

Finally, Mr. President, we support the continuation of the contract of the current Head of the ATT Secretariat for a second term and would like to use this opportunity to thank Mr. Dladla and the ATT Secretariat for their support to States Parties and their effective administration of the Sponsorship Programme and Voluntary Trust Fund.

Lastly, Mr. President, Slovenia would like to reiterate its unwavering support to the Arms Trade Treaty.

Thank you.