



IRELAND

Matters Pertaining to Financial Contributions

Statement by

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Ireland

at the

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Arms Trade Treaty

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President,

Ireland aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union and would like to make additional remarks in its national capacity.

Having already addressed the importance of financial stability in our general statement, I will keep this intervention brief and simply note Ireland's appreciation for the work of the Management Committee and its efforts to explore a way forward on the issue of delayed and unpaid contributions.

While Ireland, like most State Parties, would prefer to have more time to discuss substantive issues related to the ATT, we recognise the need to include financial matters as a stand-alone item on our agenda again this year. Unfortunately, the current financial situation forces us to address this issue urgently.

Financial stability is essential for the effective functioning of the Treaty and of its institutions. Timely payment by States of their financial obligations is essential for us to engage in substantive work. Unfortunately, the ATT is not the only arms control arrangement confronted with this challenge. The protracted and widespread nature of these financial challenges is inconsistent with the continued commitment of the international community to arms control as an essential component of the international security architecture.

President

Ireland is seriously concerned by the fact that a significant number of States have not met their financial obligations.

We welcome the recommendations as set out by the Management Committee in their draft proposal to address problems related to financial liquidity. Given the financial situation the ATT finds itself in, it will be essential to build flexibility into the application of the financial rules of the Treaty. Ireland supports rolling over financial credits over a longer period of time to allow space and time for the ATT's finances to recover. The establishment of a voluntary reserve fund under the conditions set out in the Annex may go some way to addressing liquidity problems in the short term, and we welcome the proposal for the Management Committee to monitor the effectiveness of the proposed financial measures and report on it at CSP7 for consideration by the States Parties.

In the event that these voluntary measures prove inadequate, we remain open to examining the possibility of utilising some of the additional measures to incentivise States Parties to pay their dues in full and on time.

Thank you.