

STATEMENT by H.E. Mr. Penda Naanda, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Namibia, on Agenda Item 9 (International Assistance), during the Fifth Conference of States Parties (CSP5) to the Arms Trade Treaty (CSP5), on 27 August 2019, Geneva, Switzerland

Thank you Mr. President,

I have the honour to deliver on statement in my national capacity on agenda item 9 on International Assistance.

My delegation welcomes the report of the Management Committee on the Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF), as presented by the Chair of the Selection Committee and the Secretariat and express our appreciation to the donors who have provided financial contributions in respect of the Fund. Their efforts will certainly contribute to the strengthening of the implementation of the treaty.

In this regard, we welcome the establishment and the operationalization of the VTF to assist in the universalization of the ATT. We also welcome the ATT Sponsorship Programme for making a contribution towards representative and participatory discourse within the framework of the ATT.

Namibia and Control Arms submitted with success a join application to the Voluntary Trust Fund of the ATT to hold a SADC ATT Academy. The Academy is geared to focus on the GBV provision of the ATT, its implementation and relevance for the sub-region. The ATT Academy will also explore the links between the Treaty and other relevant international and regional instruments, including UN Security Council Resolution 1325 as well as the Sustainable Developmental Goals.

Furthermore, the project will explore the link between small arms proliferation and wildlife crimes. In addition, the SADC ATT Academy will make a linkage of the existing SADC Protocol on Small Arms and Light Weapons and other Related Materials as well as the Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

To this end Mr. President, my delegation would like to thank the Management Committee for approving the joint application, and we look forward to the full implementation for ATT Academy for Southern Africa.

Thank you.