



Statement by the Netherlands

Fourth Conference of States Parties of the Arms Trade Treaty International Assistance – Voluntary Trust Fund

Thank you Mr. President,

The Netherlands aligns itself with the statement to be delivered by the EU on Thursday on this issue and would like to make some remarks in our national capacity.

The Netherlands thanks Germany, especially ambassador Beerwerth, the VTF donors as well as funds recipients for all their efforts to further strengthen the implementation of the Treaty. We also like to acknowledge the tremendous efforts by the ATT Secretariat for the preparation of documentation for the Selection Committee and other work for the VTF. This has been instrumental for the success of the Fund.

The Netherlands is pleased to note that the number of applications are steadily increasing, testifying to the interest in and added value of this instrument. The Netherlands encourages the submission of high quality proposals.

As mentioned already in the General Debate the Netherlands will continue to sponsor the VTF until 2020 with a contribution, as part of our multi-annual commitment. We invite others, in a position to do so, to do the same.

Lastly, we thank Germany for the many years of leadership to set up and steer the VTF in a good direction and we look forward to continue our involvement in the VTF Selection Committee under the new Chair, Ambassador Dell Higgle from New Zealand.

I thank you.