

Statement of the Netherlands

delivered by

Sabine Visser, Deputy Coordinator Division Arms Export Controls, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

at

Fifth Conference of States Parties to

the Arms Trade Treaty

Treaty Implementation

Geneva, 28 August 2019

Thank you Mr. President,

The Netherlands aligns itself with the statement of the EU. In my national capacity I would like to add the following remarks.

The Netherlands welcomes the discussions during the meetings of the Working Group of Effective Treaty Implementation. Those fruitful discussions would not have been possible without the efforts of the Working Group Chair, the Swiss Ambassador Mrs. Dallafior, as well as the Subgroup Chairs from Ghana, Jamaica and Sweden.

The Netherlands supports the endorsement of the documents put forward by the Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation. We especially support the continued work and exchange on diversion and welcome the future focus on transit and transshipment.

Going forward, we remain of the opinion that although the discussions and information exchange on our systems of export control are valid and valuable, we would welcome even more discussions on how our systems are applied in practice through case studies. We understand that this might meet with sensitivities, but we feel that this would be critical in informing a true understanding of how different systems work in practice. In this regard we welcome this mornings' informal consultation and yesterday's meeting with stakeholders on the subject of diversion.

Finally, we would like to stress the importance that export control practitioners from capital attend and contribute to the discussions on implementation. We are happy to contribute to the ATT sponsorship program in order to enable a number of practitioners from capitals to do so.

I thank you.