

## **Statement by Norway – Treaty Implementation**

**27 August 2019, Geneva**

Mr. President,

Norway is aligned with the statement of the European Union, and would like to make some additional remarks in a national capacity.

Let me start by underscoring the importance of the ATT working groups - which in our view are key arenas in developing best practices and strategies for the work leading up to the CSPs (Conferences of State Parties). This is where we take the overarching political goals – and turn them into practical procedures and approaches, strengthening implementation, universalisation and transparency and reporting - step by step.

The Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation has proven to be a useful forum for bringing the discussions on implementation forward - and laying the ground for the establishment of national institutions, including the implementation of necessary processes and procedures required to fulfill treaty obligations.

My delegation thanks the Chair (Ambassador Sabrina Dallafior of Switzerland) and the Subgroup Facilitators (from Ghana, Jamaica and Sweden) for their hard work, coordination efforts and the presentations today. We also wish to thank all the states taking part in the discussions and sharing their relevant experiences and best practices.

Mr President,

As implementation is a national responsibility, each State Party may choose different solutions and models for their national control systems, based on their needs, resources, arms export profile and legal systems.

But we can still all benefit from the exchange of information, best practices and experiences. This is where the Working Group proves its true value, through open and frank discussions and through sharing our experiences of what works – and what doesn't work. This inclusive process is vital in order to advance our work to implement the ATT principles.

Norway continues to support the proposed mandate of the working group and suggested list of priority topics. We will also ensure the attendance of relevant national governmental experts on export control at working group meetings.

National export licensing authorities have important roles to play when it comes to implementation. They hold significant expertise in assessing criteria such as ATT Article 6 and 7, as well as considerations applicable to the field of arms trade. Furthermore, export licensing authorities are well informed about import control regulations as well as potential risks of diversion. Likewise, experts are often involved in assessing reporting requirements similar to that of the ATT, and could therefore also contribute to a more effective understanding on collecting relevant data required for submitting the annual ATT report on time.

Mr President,

Norway is pleased with the work that has been done so far in the framework of the working group and the constructive role played by its facilitators on implementation.

We welcome and support the proposal for a new handbook and the multiyear plan presented at this years' CSP. Norway will continue to support the development of the handbook in the CSP6 working

group sessions and we encourage the working group to continuously review the handbook on effective implementation – as ATT’s best practices and norms should follow the dynamics of a changing world and global markets.

We further support the endorsement of the *Voluntary Basic Guide to establishing a national control system*, and the *List of Possible Reference Documents to Be Used by States Parties in Conducting Risk Assessments under Article 7*.

We encourage developing universal language, terms and conditions as spelled out in the universal ATT reference documents, such as end user statement formats highlighted by UNIDIR in their presentation during the April working group session in Geneva.

Finally, Norway continues to hold the strong view that the Working Groups and their continued progress is the key to a stronger ATT – and to achieve this we rely on each and every States Parties’ contributions and support.

**Thank you.**