



Republic of Mozambique

Statement by the Delegation of Mozambique at the CSP 5

Arms Trade Treaty

Item 4

Geneva, 26th August 2019

**Your Excellency Jan Karklins, Permanent Representative of
Latvia and President of the ATT CSP5,**

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset, we wish to commend you, Mr President, for your wise choice of the theme for this Conference's thematic discussion, on *Gender and Gender Based Violence*.

Likewise, we thank the panellists for their comprehensive presentations, as they set the stage for our discussion, especially on the possible elements to advance gender and gender based violence in the framework of ATT.

Mr. President,

This theme could not have been timely. It is addressed at time when women and girls in violent conflict situations, worldwide, represent the bulk of civilians' casualties, as indicated in the relevant reports by the UNHCR, OHCHR, ICRC, Human and Inclusion and other humanitarian organizations.

Non-states actors, in particular, disregard the IHL basic principles of proportionality, distinction and precaution, even in urban densely populated areas, as they seek to compensate for fire power imbalance and maximize damages, with resort to conventional arms, subject matter of ATT.

Therefore, we are of the view that strengthening prevention of **arms diversion**, one of the sources of arms for non-state actors, should be taken seriously, not only in line of article 11 of ATT, but also through others ways and means. It is in this context that Mozambique, as a member of *Core Group on EWIPA* has been landing its political support to the process in the lead up to the Political Declaration on Protection of Civilians, especially women and girls, from the use of explosive weapons with wide-area effects.

Mozambique, as member of *Gender Champion Initiative* in Geneva has been doing its level best to address Gender issues, as we all endeavour to meet the SDG Goal 5, on *achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls*.

As for collection of gender-disaggregated data, which can provide more information about the differing impact of armed violence on men and boys, women and girls, we would urge for exchange of best practices with the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC), which upcoming Plan of Action is envisaging such approach, apart from age – disaggregation dimension of mine survivors, for that matter.

Mr. President,

We would like to hear the views of the members of the panel, on (i) how to better tackle gender – based violence as a war tactic, in situations of violent conflicts as well as (ii) the role women and girls can play in the prevention of arms' diversion.

We support the draft decision on the matter, but we have slight amendments to paras. **1.1. (Delegations/States Parties attending ... should strive for ... in the composition of their delegations);** **2.2** (... collect gender and **age** disaggregated data within their national ...) which we will pass on to the Secretariat.

We thank you