



**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
ARMS TRADE TREATY (CSP7)
30 August - 03 September 2021**

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Thank you, Mr. President,

-Turkey aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union, and in our national capacity, we would like to deliver the following statement.

-Turkey expresses its appreciation to you and the Secretariat for their dedication and relentless efforts in ensuring that the Treaty continues to fulfill its mandate and objectives, especially during these challenging times. Mr. Ambassador, we believe that the 7th CSP will have achieved fruitful results under your able leadership.

-Conventional arms, especially excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), pose a significant threat to peace and security as well as to the economic and social welfare of the international community at large. There is also a close relationship between the illicit trade in SALW and terrorism.

-The Arms Trade Treaty is a significant achievement and fills a vital gap concerning transparency and code of conduct concerning global conventional arms trade, as it defines the highest common international standards governing conventional arms exports. The implementation of the ATT will complement the aims of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically Goal 16.

-Turkey is among those most affected by uncontrolled transfers of arms and is a country best placed to appreciate what the Arms Trade Treaty offers in terms of transparency and curbing illicit transfers of arms.

-We have co-sponsored “The Arms Trade Treaty” resolution of Sierra Leone during the 75th UN General Assembly. We have also been supporting the resolutions entitled "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them," "Transparency in armaments," and "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects" adopted by the UN General Assembly annually.

-As an adamant supporter of disarmament, arms control, and non-proliferation, Turkey is a member of the Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) and Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). Both regimes are effective mechanisms for controlling the transfer of conventional weapons and dual-use equipment and technologies. Turkey meticulously implements her commitments stemming from international export control regimes.

-Turkey is committed to the effective implementation and strengthening of the Program of Action to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects and the International Tracing Instrument.

-Turkey has been submitting reports about its transfers of major conventional arms and SALW annually to the UN Register of Conventional Arms (UNROCA).

-We enjoy a robust national control system with a functioning interagency dialogue. Promoting international and regional peace, security, and stability with responsible and transparent trade in arms is of utmost importance for our country.

-Military equipment, arms, and ammunition export in Turkey is regulated by Law No. 5201 dated 2004 regarding "The Control of Private Industrial Enterprises Producing War Weapons, Vehicles, Equipment, and Ammunition."-Each export request is dealt with elaboration by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with close coordination of related institutions.

-Although Turkey signed the Treaty in July 2013, it is not yet a State Party. We are working towards completing the ratification process.

-Turkey believes that financial issues need to be seriously taken care of not to experience the unfortunate situations we face in other disarmament platforms.

Thank you, Mr. President,