Taking Stock of Arms Trade Treaty Reporting

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Transparency Challenges

Compliance Issues

- Decreasing rates of compliance with reporting requirements

Private Reporting

- Increasing rates of private reporting

Information Issues

- Failing to update outdated reports
- Providing less detail than in other reports
- Omitting or withholding information
- Aggregating information

Reporting Challenges

1 Awareness and Understanding of ATT Obligations

Uncertainty/confusion regarding:
- Reporting requirements/deadlines
- Public reporting vs. private reporting vs. excluding information
- How to collect information in ways that align with deadlines
- Use of the reporting templates/online reporting tool
- When updates are required and how to submit them

2 Capacity and Resource Challenges

- Limited capacity and resources
- Limited availability of relevant information
- Lack of national point(s) of contact
- Lack of time to complete report(s)
- Underdeveloped/lack of internal systems to collect, compile, and store relevant information

3 Internal and Bureaucratic Challenges

- Poor coordination between government agencies or lack of interagency process to facilitate report completion
- Difficulty accessing and compiling relevant information
- Difficulty conducting assessments of transfer control system
- Difficulty preparing statistical data for ATT annual reports

4 Political/Security Challenges

- Confidentiality concerns
- Concerns related to the release of information regarded as sensitive
- Reporting fatigue
- Political interference

Recommendations

States Parties:
- ✓ Develop effective intragovernmental coordination systems
- ✓ Establish robust record keeping and database management systems and practices
- ✓ Promote accurate and transparent reporting
- ✓ Identify and leverage synergies across reporting frameworks

The WGTR, ATT Secretariat, and other stakeholders:
- ✓ Engage in detailed and coordinated outreach to identify obstacles and implement solutions
- ✓ Continue to address reporting concerns, uncertainties, and confusion
- ✓ Evaluate the use and impact of the revised templates
- ✓ Establish public databases of implementation measures and initial report responses
- ✓ Provide additional insights on the reporting webpages

Conclusion

- ATT reporting has yet to live up to its full potential

- States Parties can leverage existing resources and good practice to enhance reporting and broader ATT implementation

- Opportunities exist to better support States Parties' reporting efforts, particularly with new EU funding

- The ATT's 10th anniversary is an important milestone that States Parties can use to reaffirm their commitment to transparency by submitting overdue reports