

## United Kingdom – email received on 17 August 2020

Dear ATT Secretariat,

The UK has the honour to inform the President, Ambassador Federico Villegas of Argentina, that together with France, we are breaking silence on the document under reference, Decision 17, for the following reasons:

1. It is our understanding that silence procedures are provided for in the Rule of Procedures solely for the adoption of decisions on matters of procedure. They do not apply to substantive decisions requiring discussion and consultation between States Parties.
2. It is our view that a number of decisions presented for adoption at CSP6 are substantive, and that their adoption under silence would be inconsistent with the important exchanges provided for in Working Groups and plenary.
3. The present paper includes a number of substantive points, including recommendations for the CSP, which go beyond matters of procedure. These points and recommendations would require significant cross-government consultation in the UK; we would need time to contact appropriate responsible authorities. In this regard, we kindly suggest that further consultation on the recommendations of this paper be conducted.
4. In light of the above, we suggest the following changes to the decision: *“States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty: **Welcome the work done by the CSP 6 President in its document** Working Paper of the CSP6 President titled: Transparency and exchange of information: its role in the prevention of diversion (contained in document ATT/CSP6/2020/PRES/611/Conf.TransplnfExch.Rev1) **which could serve as a basis for further discussion on this issue**”*.
5. The French translation of the document is inconsistent with the English draft circulated : the word “welcome” has been translated into “approved” in the sentence *“States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty: Welcome the Working Paper of the CSP6 President titled: Transparency and exchange of information: its role in the prevention of diversion (contained in document ATT/CSP6/2020/PRES/611/Conf.TransplnfExch.Rev1)”* // « Les États Parties au Traité sur le commerce des armes : Approuvent le document de travail du Président de la CEP6 intitulé : *Transparence et échange d'informations : leur rôle dans la prévention du détournement (figurant dans le document ATT/CSP6/2020/PRES/611/Conf.TransplnfExch.Rev1).* » The right translation shall be « Les États Parties au Traité sur le commerce des armes : **Saluent** le document de travail du Président de la CEP6 ».
6. In addition, and in line with the aforementioned point on procedural decisions, the UK is breaking silence in conjunction with others on the following decisions:

**Decision 9:** The UK aligns with the joint message issued by France.

**Decision 10:** The UK aligns with the joint message issued by France.

**Decision 11:** The UK aligns with the joint message issued by France.

**Decision 15:** The UK aligns with the joint proposal issued by Canada.

**Decision 16:** The UK aligns with the joint proposal issued by Canada.

Kind regards,

Eleonora Saggese

UK Mission to the United Nations in Geneva - Disarmament and Arms Control Attaché