**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

**ARMS TRADE TREATY –**

**TENTH CONFERENCE OF STATE PARTIES**

**19-23 AUGUST 2024**

Transparency and Reporting

Wednesday 21 August

Thank you Mr President, I would first like to thank the ATT Secretariat for their presentation on the current status of reporting under the Treaty, and the Chair of the Working Group on Transparency and Reporting for their report.

The UK places great importance on our transparency and reporting obligations under the ATT as well as other complementary instruments such as the UN Register of Conventional Arms. Effective and regular reporting of arms transfer activity is vital for accountability, transparency and confidence building. The UK continues to explore additional ways to make progress in this regard. We are pleased to be able to report on both exports and imports again this year.

The UK shares the concerns of others on the decline in reporting and the upward trend of private reporting. Transparent and prompt reporting remains vital to the effectiveness of the ATT as a confidence building mechanism. We encourage all States Parties to improve the frequency, quality and openness of their reporting. We welcome in this regard the fact that a number of states have submitted overdue reports in the past year, as well as the fact that a number of states have also submitted public reports for the first time in a number of years.

Later this year we will see the start of the next Group of Government Experts on the UN Register of Conventional Arms. We know from UNODA that the communication of ATT reports to the Register continues to grow. We hope we will be able to explore the synergies between the UNROCA and ATT and improve their utilisation. By doing so, we can ease the reporting burden on States, achieve greater consistency in public reporting and strengthen transparency overall.

The UK welcomes the recommendations from the Working Group, specifically recommendation one to encourage States Parties to make use of available assistance mechanisms to address their challenges and the new ATT Needs and Resources Matching Database. We believe that the VTF can play an important role in supporting States Parties to meet or improve their reporting obligations and encourage bids from interested states for reporting support.