
Arms Trade Treaty
Second Conference of States Parties
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**WORKING PAPER TO CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT ON A WORKING
GROUP ON 'NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION'**

Introduction

With the administrative issues now settled, effective national implementation and universalisation of the ATT should be the key priorities for States Parties to consider. The need to prevent the diversion of conventional arms whilst not hampering international cooperation and legitimate trade in materiel, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes will require the effective national implementation of the ATT.

Most States have some measures in place to implement the articles of the ATT already but to varying degrees. Therefore, and in keeping with ATT/CSP2/2016/WP.2, the United Kingdom would like to suggest that the establishment of a regular working group of technical experts be considered at the 2CSP. Its main duties would be to discuss issues related to effective national implementation and the application of the ATT, in particular Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Such a group would seek to:

Action: be a forum for knowledge exchange on best practices on effective national implementation of the ATT;

Output: support international cooperation and capacity building through practical identification of issues State Parties have with application of the ATT;

Outcomes: assist in the proper and effective implementation of the ATT and also in the universalisation of the ATT as such an expert group exchanging best practice could identify capacity deficits which would be of interest to many States;

Consideration

That the 2CSP, in accordance with Rule 42, consider the establishment of a Working Group on “National Implementation” to be comprised of technical experts with relevant experience who can be supported by officers from permanent representations or relevant government departments. Recognising that the expected discussion within the Group should be of a technical nature and in some cases confidential, the group itself should be authorised to decide when its meetings are public or private, open to all or limited on occasion. In accordance with Rule 42 of the ATT ROP, where such meetings are held in private experts, particularly from industry, may be invited to attend. It is envisaged that the Working Group would meet up to twice per year for a 1-2 day session unless otherwise decided by the Working Group itself. Reports of its deliberations and outcomes should be made available through the Secretariat to States Parties and Signatories.

Proposed Terms of Reference for the Working Group on National Implementation**Organisation**

1. The Working Group shall decide on its meetings, meet at least once annually and report on the outcome of its deliberations to the Conference of States Parties.
2. Unless otherwise decided by the Working Group, it shall be open to all States Parties, Signatories and Observers and its meeting held in public.
3. The President of the CSP will nominate a Chair and Co-Chair for the Working Group bearing in mind the necessity to reflect both exporting and importing States involved in the transfer of conventional arms.
4. Such a Working Group will be established:

For the purpose of

-sharing knowledge and experience, legal and practical, on the national implementation of the ATT in particular Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12.

And with the mandate to:

- To exchange knowledge on the practical issues related to the national implementation of the ATT.
- To make recommendations and, where possible, elaborate guidance for consideration by all States Parties on the practical national implementation of the ATT.
- Promote universalisation by identifying areas for capacity building.
