



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia
to the United Nations in Geneva and Vienna

NOTE: 139/2020

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Arms Trade Treaty and has the honour to submit to the latter, Zambia's Statement to be delivered at that Sixth Conference of State Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Arms Trade Treaty the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 12th August, 2020

The Secretariat,
Arms Trade Treaty
GENEVA



ZAMBIA'S STATEMENT FOR SIXTH CONFERENCE OF STATE PARTIES TO THE ARMS TRADE TREATY

Mr. Chairman, Zambia would like to thank you for your efforts in organizing this year's conference of State Parties in the midst of the Covid 19. Zambia equally welcomes the Maldives, Namibia and China who have acceded to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) bringing the number of State Parts to One Hundred and Seven (107). The addition of the three (3) countries is a major milestone to the universalization of the treaty. We call upon the remaining states to join the treaty and help actualize its objectives.

Mr. Chairman, Zambia, in accordance with Article 5 of the ATT is putting in place measures for the implementation of the treaty. A draft legislation to domesticate the treaty has been formulated. Cooperation with the Germany Federal Office of Economic Affairs and Export Control and the European Union has helped greatly in the domestication process and transfer of skills to the Zambian stakeholders involved in the implementation of the ATT. Equally, the European Union have continued to offer assistance and advice through remote assistance in this Covid 19 era to our quest for a proper legal system that will facilitate the smooth implementation of the treaty. Zambia has also put in place a draft control list which is yet to be approved by relevant authorities. In this vein, we would like to thank the Arms Trade Treaty Voluntary Trust Fund for supporting our efforts in coming up with a national control list. Furthermore, we appreciate the support from the ATT VTF for supporting us in the process of meeting our reporting obligations as demanded in Article 13. Efforts and consultants have taken place to validate our annual report and it will be submitted to the ATT Secretariat once it is approved.

In accordance with Article 15, Zambia is willing to cooperate and share its experience with other states. We are cognizant of the fact that many states, especially in Africa, that have ratified the treaty still lag behind in putting in place national control systems efficient enough to implement the ATT. This may be one reason many states with no control systems in place may be reluctant to be State Parties and hence slowing the process of universalizing the treaty. It is in this respect that Zambia is willing to share her experience of putting up mechanisms and systems capable of implementing the ATT having ratified the treaty with literally no implementation systems in place.

Mr. Chairman, we thank you and wish you well in your endeavor to universalize the ATT