

Agenda Item 13. Matters pertaining to the Twelfth Conference of States Parties (CSP12) - United Kingdom Proposal for a Strategy Ms. Shirine Jurdi 11th Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty

We welcome the United Kingdom's proposal for a five-year strategy for the ATT and especially that the process of developing a strategy is envisaged to be inclusive of all stakeholders. It will be equally important that the process throughout is transparent.

Control Arms believes that the strategy should be focused on the Treaty's object and purpose, placing the need to reduce human suffering at its centre. This would involve examining whether and how the object and purpose is being delivered, and where we are collectively falling short. It would then be a case of developing the strategy with the goal of ensuring that the object and purpose of the Treaty are better achieved in the future.

Once the overall structure of the strategy is agreed, it will then be important to establish priorities, indicators and targets that allow monitoring progress in delivering on the strategy.

Other disarmament instruments - such as the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions - include performance measures to guide States Parties in implementing their Treaty obligations. Such performance measures can not only gauge the overall Treaty's effectiveness, but also the degree to which states are implementing core aspects of the ATT, including Article 6 and 7.

Some of the proposed themes in the non-paper in paragraph 10 could be further developed, and additional ones considered. For instance, the theme on "Confidence-building measures" could include transparency, a key purpose of the Treaty. Moreover, any strategy must consider the humanitarian dimensions of the ATT and the links between responsible arms transfers and regional and international security.

We look forward to working with other stakeholders to develop and then help to deliver a strategy that contributes to peace, security and stability; that promotes cooperation, transparency and responsible action; and that reduces human suffering.