

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates

Mr. President, Distinguished Delegates,

The State of Palestine acknowledges the progress achieved on ATT implementation. However, while the Treaty provides clear rules, its application remains a profound challenge, amid ongoing war crimes and a genocide.

Compliance with the ATT is not optional; it is a binding obligation aligned with international law. We therefore support:

- Implementing stronger national control systems, including on parts and components;
- Responsible engagement of industry in arms transfers, ensuring due diligence under human rights and humanitarian law;
- Integration of gender perspectives to prevent arms from fueling gender-based violence; we welcome establishment of gender focal points
- And upholding human rights and international law as central to arms transfer decisions.

We stress the urgent need to strictly control arms transshipment, as diverted weapons fuel war crimes against Palestinian civilians by illegal settlers, as many of these arms were originally exported to Israel. 982 Palestinians have been killed by settlers and IOF in the West Bank since October 2023.

Mr. President.

Gaza has been bombed with more than 100 thousand tons of explosives, and used as a testing ground for Israel global weapons industry. 60,000 Palestinians have been killed, 100,000 wounded or buried under rubble, and two million displaced. Entire communities are annihilated, and infrastructure destroyed, affecting generations marked ahead.

Since the ATT's entry into force, irresponsible arms transfers to the occupying power have entrenched occupation and apartheid. States Parties that continue these transfers cannot escape complicity. They knew, and yet did not act.

We therefore reiterate our calls for:



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- An immediate arms embargo on Israel;
- An end to the occupation of Palestine;
- Halt trade with illegal settlements.

We commend the steps taken by several State Parties, including Slovenia, Spain, Japan, Belgium, Germany, Canada, Italy, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and members of The Hague Group in suspending arms exports on different levels. However, we call on all State Parties for collective and decisive actions and impose a two way arms embargo. We reiterate that all state parties must adhere to articles 6 and 7 of the treaty.

I thank you.