**Fifth Statement**

**Compliance with the reporting requirements of the Arms Trade Treaty in Africa**

**General item: Transparency and Reporting**

**Morning session, August 27, 2025**

**Thank you, Mr. President.**

Compliance with the reporting requirements of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) is an indicator of the commitment of States Parties to the Treaty. However, compliance with the Treaty's requirements to submit an initial report on its implementation and annual reports on arms exports and imports is steadily declining. While some States Parties meet all reporting deadlines, many remain consistently non-compliant. Furthermore, some States have yet to submit initial reports to the Treaty Secretariat, despite suffering from the proliferation of irresponsible arms trade. This leads to low levels of transparency and the diversion of arms transfers to countries experiencing conflict and armed conflict.

Compliance rates in Africa are significantly low, despite the continent's widespread armed conflicts and civil wars, fueled by irresponsible arms transfers to terrorist groups, armed movements, and governments with poor human rights records. Although 31 African states have acceded to the treaty, including conflict-ridden countries such as Nigeria, Chad, and the Central African Republic, compliance rates for reporting remain low. In 2024, 18 African states did not submit their reports, while five others chose to withhold them from the public. This leaves a compliance rate of only 26%—a very low rate given the widespread proliferation of weapons on the continent. Furthermore, 12 states have not submitted their initial reports to the Arms Trade Treaty Secretariat.

To improve this situation, we recommend opening a direct and constructive dialogue with African States Parties to understand the challenges preventing reporting—whether technical, administrative, or related to a lack of resources—and to identify the type of technical assistance or training required to strengthen these states' capacity to collect data and prepare reports.

We believe that dialogues will contribute to building trust between States Parties and the Treaty Secretariat, encourage the exchange of expertise among African States themselves, and help raise levels of transparency and accountability, a goal we hope will be met with positive response from the Working Group.

On the other hand, Maat has numerous concerns regarding the possibility of weapons being diverted from Ukraine to conflict-ridden countries in Africa. This is due to the lack of information regarding the provision of military support to the Ukrainian government. This reduces transparency and allows weapons to fall into the hands of unofficial and irresponsible actors, such as armed groups or warring parties in conflict zones, especially given the lack of specific mechanisms to monitor the flow of arms provided by governments to Ukraine and the absence of some basic information about them.

Given these legitimate concerns, we call on the States Parties to provide all information related to their provision of military support to the Ukrainian government, with this information prominently displayed in their country reports. This is to enhance transparency and international oversight and prevent these weapons from falling into the wrong hands.

**Thank you!**