WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPARENCY AND REPORTING
ANNOTATED DRAFT AGENDA FOR MEETING OF 31 MAY 2018

1. Opening and adoption of the draft report of the 8 March meeting and the present agenda

Under this agenda item, WGTR participants will have the opportunity to share remarks about the draft report of the 8 March WGTR meeting and the present draft agenda and to propose additional agenda items under AOB.

2. State of play of compliance with reporting obligations

Under this agenda item, the ATT Secretariat will give a presentation on the status of reporting, focusing on the 2018 annual reporting exercise, followed by a discussion among WGTR participants.

3. Challenges concerning reporting

Under this agenda item, WGTR participants will have the opportunity to raise challenges to submitting timely and accurate initial and annual reports and to propose and discuss means to support States Parties in addressing those challenges.

As a follow-up to the 8 March WGTR meeting, the WGTR co-chairs will present a short paper concerning outreach about the Treaty’s reporting obligations.

Further, WGTR participants will be invited to exchange views on other ideas that were raised during the 8 March WGTR meeting to support reporting: 1) giving the ATT Secretariat a reporting assistance mandate; 2) listing existing guidance documents and tools; 3) drawing up a roster of reporting experts that States Parties having reporting difficulties can turn to for tailor-made assistance; and 4) provide a forum within the ATT IT platform for intersessional exchanges on reporting.

4. ‘FAQ’-type guidance document on the annual reporting obligation

Under this agenda item WGTR participants will have the opportunity to submit and discuss potential proposals for alterations or additional questions and answers, including on the issue of categorizing items in the correct categories of conventional arms.

5. Substantive reporting and transparency issues

Under this agenda item WGTR participants will have the opportunity to raise substantive issues concerning the Treaty’s reporting obligations that could benefit from consideration by the WGTR.

As a follow-up to the 8 March WGTR meeting, the co-chairs will present the Netherlands’ questionnaire on gathering information to compile annual reports that was published on the ATT website, as well as the contributions that were received in writing. WGTR participants will be invited to contribute orally to the exchange of information.
Further following the 8 March WGTR meeting, a representative of the World Customs Organisation (WCO) will give a presentation on the Harmonized System (concerning the customs classification of goods), its review process and the classification of conventional arms within the Harmonized System.

6. Organizational means for information exchange

Under this agenda item, WGTR participants will have the opportunity to propose and discuss structured mechanisms, processes or formats facilitating the information exchanges that are required or encouraged by the Treaty, both on the policy level, as well as on the operational level.

Following the intention expressed by Japan during the 8 March WGTR meeting to submit a proposal for the development of an information exchange portal, Japan will present its proposal, which will be followed by an in-depth discussion on this as a potential deliverable for CSP4.

Further following the 8 March WGTR meeting and taking into account discussions within the WGETI, WGTR participants will be invited to exchange views on the following ideas raised during the 8 March WGTR meeting concerning structured mechanisms to exchange diversion information on the operational level: 1) exploring whether the ATT IT platform can be used to have operational exchanges between States Parties; and 2) exploring whether some guidance can be included in the guidance document for national points of contact that the ATT Secretariat is mandated to prepare.

7. Harnessing information generated by mandatory reporting

Under this agenda item, WGTR participants will have the opportunity to propose and discuss approaches to harnessing information generated in the initial and annual reports that are submitted by States Parties, with a view to allow analysis (see also agenda item 8).

As a follow-up to the 8 March WGTR meeting, WGTR participants will be invited to exchange views on how the work of civil society on harnessing information included in initial reports could be used and structured in order to feed into the discussions in the WGETI.

8. IT platform: reporting and transparency functionalities

Under this agenda item, the ATT Secretariat will give a presentation about the progress in the development and enhancement of the ATT IT platform, i.e. the information database, the website, the conference services support and, in particular, the web-based reporting functionality allowing States Parties to submit their mandatory reports online. WGTR participants will have the opportunity to share any remarks, suggestions and priorities concerning the IT platform.

As a follow-up to the 8 March WGTR meeting, WGTR participants will also be briefed about the establishment of the consultative group of WGTR participants that will support the ATT Secretariat on the development and enhancement of the IT platform.

9. WGTR mandate in the period between CSP4 and CSP5

Under this agenda item, the WGTR co-chairs will present an initial draft of the mandate that the WGTR could propose for consideration by CSP4 for further work of the WGTR in the period between CSP4 and CSP5.

As a follow-up to the intention they expressed during the 8 March WGTR meeting, the co-chairs will in that regard also seek the approval of the WGTR of their proposal for a recommendation to CSP4 of
standing agenda items for WGTR meetings (which would concern agenda items 2 to 9 of the present agenda).

10. AOB