

Statement by the delegation of Brazil for the General Debate of the ATT CSP9

22.08.2023

Madam President,

Allow me to start by extending congratulations on your presidency. We are thankful for the leadership displayed by the Republic of Korea at the helm of the Conference of States-Parties, as we commemorate the Treaty's 10th anniversary. We are also glad that Brazil has completed its internal procedures regarding the ATT's ratification process and has submitted its initial report.

The topic chosen for the CSP9: "The role of private companies on international trade of conventional weapons" is both pertinent and pressing. It draws our attention to an area that requires our full attention and diligence. My delegation commends your vision and pledge our unwavering support in ensuring the success of our discussions.

Within the complex web of international cooperation, one truth stands above all: the more immediate our collaborative efforts, the more profound and lasting our achievements.

The world of forensics has taught us that evidence, both tangible and intangible, often fades with time. Just as the details of a fingerprint will eventually erode, or the clarity of a digital footprint inevitably gets blurred, so too can the trails in our fight against the diversion of firearms. The very spirit of the ATT resides in establishing functional processes and channels aimed at ensuring our efficacy in both receiving and offering general cooperation on this front. To enhance these processes, participation of the private sector emerges becomes essential. More than that it should be seen as a pivotal partner.

International cooperation is vital. Equally crucial is the role of compliance and due diligence. Forensics thrives on detail and precision. The commitment of firearms exporters to immediate and compliance-focused cooperation can be a game-changing factor in many cases. Their intimate knowledge of distribution networks, potential vulnerabilities, and weak links is invaluable.

Madam President,

Transnational organized crime is extremely adaptable. It does not cease to seek alternatives if confronted with the obstruction of regular avenues for firearms trade. Minute changes in firearm composition, trade routes, and supplier patterns can overcome years of patient efforts by the

authorities to close possible gaps for diversion. Hence, exporters venturing into less conventional markets must ensure their risk assessments concerning diversion are robust and thorough. Sharing regional diagnostics and findings among law enforcement agencies can deepen their understanding of complex situations.

Interagency coordination highlights the importance of evidence collection and interpretation. Different channels, from police to intelligence and diplomacy, bring unique methodologies to the table. In the Brazilian context, we fortunately count with the dexterity of our police forces that are capable to resort to a combination of traditional investigative techniques with state-of-the-art science.

Madam President,

Tracing is fundamental. Every firearm has a story. Unlike narcotics, inherently illegal, many seized firearms started their journey within legal frameworks, only to be maliciously diverted. Through detailed analysis and tracing, utilizing the firearm's identification data, we can unveil its entire life cycle. Tracing holds, moreover, the key to uncovering a spectrum of criminal activities, from theft and robbery to complex international trafficking operations.

Efforts towards effective implementation of the ATT should greatly benefit from the recent breakthrough achieved in the context of the United Nations, with the adoption, last June, of a global framework on through-life ammunition management. Together with the report of the 2021 Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on conventional ammunition, this global framework comprises important guidelines for the efforts of States to ensure the safety and security of ammunition and to prevent their diversion. In this regard, Brazil attaches particular relevance to the adoption of minimal standards for ammunition marking and tracing.

Madam President,

It is increasingly clear that private sector's active involvement is more required than ever. As global supply chains expand and diversify, private stakeholders occupy crucial junctures if not their commanding heights. Their global footprints, networks, and relationships provide unparalleled insights that span borders and make local nuances understandable. The private sector is, therefore, an indispensable ally, leveraging its expanded international reach for our shared goals.

In conclusion, Madam President, forensics reminds us of the impermanence of evidence, but also its power when harnessed

promptly and precisely. In an increasingly interconnected world, let us fuse the might of international cooperation, the speed of proactive corporate compliance, and the precision of tracing in order to stand poised to stem the threat of firearm diversion.

Thank you.