



STATEMENT OF SLOVENIA

Fourth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty 20-24 August 2018 in Tokyo, Japan

Mr. President,
Excellences,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mr. President, allow me to thank you for the work you have undertaken during the past months in the preparatory process leading up to this Conference.

In addition to the statement delivered by the European Union, I would like to contribute to this important discussion by pointing-out some additional perspectives in my national capacity.

To start with, I wish to reiterate Slovenia's strong support for full implementation and universalization of the Arms Trade Treaty. In this connection, we warmly welcome the latest ratifications by Cameroon, Chile, Kazakhstan, the State of Palestine and Brazil. However, Slovenia notes with regret that some of the major arms exporters still remain outside the ATT.

With universal adherence, the ATT would advance even further international peace and security, reduce human suffering and promote cooperation, transparency and responsible action by States Parties. The ATT already contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Target 16.4 on reducing illicit arms flows and Target 5.2 on eliminating gender based violence. Therefore, Slovenia is proud to be part of the ATT, the first ever legally binding regime that addresses the negative impact of poorly regulated and illicit flows of arms and ammunition on women and children.

This is also one of the reasons why Slovenia strongly supported the recognition of synergies between the ATT and the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons at its Third Review Conference in June this year. While we regret this could not be included in the outcome document, we are confident that the endeavours of the international community in combating the illicit arms trade are on the right track. In this connection, we also welcome this year's thematic discussion on diversion, which is indeed a very topical one.

Mr. President,

With regard to the obligations arising from the Treaty, we remain concerned that the number of submitted reports has been steadily declining since the Treaty has entered into force, and that a significant number of States Parties have not yet settled their financial obligations. We



therefore support all proposals, which would contribute to consistent implementation of obligations by all States Parties.

Finally, Mr. President, I would like to reiterate my delegation`s full commitment to actively participate in the discussions and our utmost support for the work of the Conference.

Thank you Mr. President