



## Government Offices of Sweden

### Ministry for Foreign Affairs

#### The Arms Trade Treaty

Fourth Conference of States Parties, Tokyo, 20-24 August 2018

#### General Debate

### SWEDEN

Madame Vice-President,

Sweden fully aligns itself with the statement of the European Union and would like to make the following brief remarks in a national capacity.

First, a warm word of thanks to our hosts for the excellent arrangements and hospitality, and in particular to the President and his team, as well as to the ATT Secretariat, for the dedicated and successful work in the lead-up to this conference.

Madame Vice-President,

Our common goals of contributing to peace, security and stability and reducing human suffering, by means of responsible controls of arms transfers, require a long-term engagement. We all need to stay committed.

The work since the third CSP has been quite substantive and a good amount of progress has been made. The three working-groups have established a productive and promising format. Sweden commends the Presidency and the Chairs, Co-chairs and Facilitators on this positive development and thanks them for their comprehensive reports. The ATT now has a well-functioning framework and we should continue to make the best possible use of it in the years to come. It remains important for us all to hear a wide range of voices in this process, including exporters and importers as well as transit countries.

We particularly welcome the work undertaken about how to best address the risks of diversion and other implementation-related questions, including the issue of gender-based violence. Articles 5, 6, 7 and 11 of the Treaty are key in many ways, and we look forward to continued discussions about their implementation. It has been valuable to hear the perspectives of a wide

range of states parties and international organisations in the working group on effective implementation. Experts from the respective capitals have much to offer by participating in these discussions, as do representatives of UN bodies, export control regimes, industry and civil society.

The attention given over the past year to the sustainable development goals has also been valuable and most timely, as it coincided with the Review Conference of the UN POA on SALW.

We are also encouraged to see that implementation assistance continues to progress, not least in the form of activities financed by the Voluntary Trust Fund. The excellent German stewardship of the VTF has put the Fund in a very good position for continued implementation support.

Universalization of the Treaty remains as important as ever. The amount of travel undertaken and meetings held to promote accession to the ATT has been impressive. Civil society has taken valuable initiatives and worked hard to the same end. We extend a warm welcome to the partners who have joined the ATT community during the past year and call on others to follow their example.

The co-chairs on transparency and reporting are also commended on the way in which they have performed their task. It is of course important that all states parties fulfil their reporting obligations. This goes also for their financial obligations.

Madam Vice-President,

I would like to conclude by expressing the conviction that we will have a successful Meeting of States Parties under the President's able leadership. You can count on my delegation's full support.

Thank you, Madam Vice-President.