



**FOURTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO THE ARMS TRADE TREATY  
TOKYO, 20 – 24 AUGUST**

**23 AUGUST 2018**

**MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE SECRETARIAT**

**DELIVERED BY: ERIC NIRAGIRA, CENTRE DE FORMATION ET DE DÉVELOPPEMENT DES  
EX-COMBATTANTS (CEDAC)**

This intervention is focused on the VTF, however we would like to begin by noting that international assistance is of course broader than just the VTF. On this understanding, Control Arms urges all States to maximise advantages of bilateral capacity-building, technical assistance and information sharing, including with non-ATT States Parties who might be encouraged to join through such outreach activity.

Control Arms welcomes the continued support for implementation assistance provided by States Parties through the VTF. Technical and financial assistance are important for many States with less resources or capacity, and can strengthen norms in ATT implementation.

We also welcome the steps that are being taken to ensure VTF projects do not duplicate other assistance projects and efforts, for example with respect to the EU ATT outreach programme.

Civil society organisations play a significant role in supporting ATT implementation assistance around the world. The VTF is the largest single fund in this field. However civil society cannot apply to the VTF. We call on donor States to make additional funds available for ATT implementation directly to civil society organisations.

Control Arms welcomes all initiatives by the ATT Secretariat and Germany, as Chair of the VTF Selection Committee, to meet and hear feedback from civil society as well as from States involved in supporting and delivering VTF applications and projects. We encourage the Secretariat and the Chair of the VTF Selection Committee to actively seek feedback from those whose applications were unsuccessful as well as those whose projects were approved.

We encourage a review of current VTF reporting requirements with a view to their simplification and streamlining, in line with standard reporting practice in this field.

In addition, the rationale for the \$100,000 ceiling for individual applications is unclear and greater flexibility in this regard would be useful.

Thank you.