To: Representatives of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty.

Dear Representatives of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty,

SUBJECT: DECISION ON FINANCIAL RULE 8.1.D FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION VIA SILENCE PROCEDURE

1. I refer to my letter of 21 January 2021 announcing the outcomes of the consultations conducted by the vice-Presidents on my behalf with respect to the approach to resolving CSP6 draft decisions not approved.

2. By way of additional background, States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty will recall that the Management Committee was requested by CSP5 to prepare guidelines on the issue of “arrangements with the Secretariat in relation to the discharge of its financial obligations” (reference Financial Rule 8.1.d) for consideration at CSP6 (see paragraph 35 of the Final Report, ATT/CSP5/2019/SEC/536/Conf.FinRep.Rev1).

3. States Parties will also recall that CSP6 did not adopt the process for making financial arrangements contemplated under Rule 8 (1) d proposed by the Management Committee in Annex A to the Draft Elements for a Secretariat’s Procedure Regarding Rule 8 (1) d (contained in document ATT/CSP6.MC/2020/MC/609/Conf.PropFinArr8(1)d), and that therefore guidelines on the issue of “arrangements with the Secretariat in relation to the discharge of its financial obligations” still do not exist.

4. In paragraph 7 of my letter of 21 January 2021, I announced that ‘A proposal to extend the mandate given by CSP5 to the Management Committee to prepare guidelines on the issue of ‘arrangements’ under Rule 8(1)d will be put to States Parties for possible adoption via silence procedure as soon as possible. The proposal will be to request the Management Committee to continue to prepare guidelines on the issue of “arrangements with the Secretariat in relation to the discharge of its financial obligations“ (reference Financial Rule 8.1.d), based on the Management Committee’s proposal to CSP6 contained in Annex A to the Draft Elements for a Secretariat’s Procedure Regarding Rule 8 (1) d (contained in document ATT/CSP6.MC/2020/MC/609/Conf.PropFinArr8(1)d), for consideration and possible adoption at CSP7.’
5. In paragraph 8 of that letter, with respect to CSP6 draft decision no. 16.a, I announced that ‘States Parties will be invited to decide, via silence procedure, to the following: ‘No State shall be prejudiced by Financial Rule 8.1.d in applying for support from the ATT Voluntary Trust Fund or the ATT Sponsorship Programme until CSP7, when this matter will be considered’. This proposal will be put to States Parties at the same time as the proposal that the Management Committee continue its mandate (see paragraph 7 above), and will form part of the same proposal’.

6. In accordance with the announcements contained in paragraphs 7 and 8 of that letter, I hereby present the following draft decision to States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty for consideration and adoption via silence procedure as contemplated in Rule 41(3) of the ATT Rules of Procedure, with a deadline set at 10 days, starting on 19 February 2021 and expiring on 01 March 2021:

**Decision on Financial Rule 8.1.d**

States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty:

a. Request the Management Committee to continue to prepare guidelines on the issue of “arrangements with the Secretariat in relation to the discharge of its financial obligations” (reference Financial Rule 8.1.d) for consideration at CSP7, based on the document proposed by the Management Committee in Annex A to the Draft Elements for a Secretariat’s Procedure Regarding Rule 8 (1) d (contained in document ATT/CSP6.MC/2020/MC/609/Conf.PropFinArr8(1)d).

b. Decide that no State shall be prejudiced by Financial Rule 8.1.d in applying for support from the ATT Voluntary Trust Fund or the ATT Sponsorship Programme until CSP7, when this matter will be considered.

7. In terms of Rule 41(3) of the ATT Rules of Procedure, once the silence procedure deadline has expired, I, as President, will inform States Parties if the decision has been adopted. If the silence procedure is broken, I will inform States Parties and the matter shall be deferred for consideration by the ATT Conference at its following ordinary session, the Seventh Conference of States Parties (CSP7).

8. I avail myself of this opportunity to renew the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Ambassador Lansana GBERIE
President: Seventh Conference of States Parties to the ATT

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