

**Third Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty
Statement by Canada – Universalization – 13 September 2017**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Canada remains committed to joining the Arms Trade Treaty. Indeed, acceding to the Arms Trade Treaty will complement Canada's existing engagement on the responsible trade of conventional arms.

It is Canadian policy, and indeed, a good practice, to only accede to Treaties when Canada is able to meet all of the obligations it is about to undertake. Thus, while Canada's robust export controls system meets most ATT obligations, steps are needed to meet the remaining obligations.

Legislative amendments were tabled in the Canadian parliament on April 13, 2017 to propose changes to the *Export and Import Permits Act* (EIPA) and one section of the *Criminal Code of Canada* that would, among other things:

- establish controls over brokering in military goods;
- create a legal obligation for the Minister of Foreign Affairs to consider certain assessment criteria before authorizing permits (building on existing policy guidelines).

In addition, to implement these necessary changes, in March 2017 Canada announced an investment of \$13 million to further strengthen our domestic export control regime.

To meet its obligations under article 10 of the ATT, Canada will implement brokering controls. Under the proposed bill, brokering is defined as arranging or negotiating a transaction that relates to the movement of goods or technology, which will be listed on a new Brokering Control List, from a foreign country to another foreign country.

The bill will amend existing Canadian legislation to prohibit brokering transactions involving the movement of controlled items from one foreign country to another foreign country, without a brokering permit; this will apply to any person or organization in Canada, as well as to any Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or Canadian organization abroad.

Canada's brokering controls will not only meet but exceed the ATT requirements by covering more goods and technology, by controlling brokering by Canadians abroad, and by weighing brokering transactions against the ATT's assessment factors.

Similarly, Canada will take steps to ensure full compliance with Article 7 of the ATT. While Canada already considers the factors outlined in Article 7, the draft legislation before the Canadian parliament and its implementing regulations will formalize this accountability process by establishing a new legal obligation for the Minister of Foreign Affairs to take these factors into account in all export as well as for brokering permitting decisions.

These changes will allow Canada to fully meet all obligations of the ATT. We look forward to acceding once all domestic changes are put in place.

Thank you.