



**STATEMENT BY  
H.E. AMBASSADOR MOHAMMAD AZHAR MAZLAN  
AMBASSADOR OF MALAYSIA TO MEXICO  
HEAD OF THE MALAYSIAN DELEGATION**

**HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT  
FIRST CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES OF THE ARMS TRADE TREATY**

**CANCUN, MEXICO  
24 AUGUST 2015**

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Mr. Chairman,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, allow me to express my gratitude to the Government and people of Mexico, for the warm welcome and generous hospitality extended to me and my delegation.

2. On behalf of my delegation, I would like to thank the Government of Mexico for hosting this Conference which clearly demonstrates the importance and high priority that Mexico places to the Arms Trade Treaty process.

3. As an active member of the ATT process since its inception, Malaysia is pleased to take part in this important event.

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. Malaysia remains committed and supports the ATT as an essential instrument to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade of conventional weapons. We are of the view that the ATT does not interfere with national policies on conventional arms, and that it respects the inalienable rights of States to possess conventional arms for the purpose of national defence and security. Malaysia believes that the ATT will strengthen existing national policies on conventional weapons, while at the same time recognises the legitimate right of States to use arms judiciously for self-defence, research and trade.

5. In this regard, my delegation looks forward to a constructive engagement in the upcoming deliberations, with the hope that the outcome of the CSP will lead us closer towards a stronger, more balanced, and ultimately an implementable Treaty.

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

6. As a responsible member of the international community, Malaysia signed the ATT on 26 September 2013. We will continue to work towards the process of accession to the ATT, and our authorities are currently undertaking a legal review of all the Articles in the Treaty to bring it into harmony with existing legislation. This notwithstanding, we have also established adequate and stringent domestic laws to effectively control the circulation of conventional arms and to prevent arms from being diverted into the illicit market.

7. Moving forward, as the current Chairman of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), it is our hope that the Treaty will receive more support from countries in Asia, including that of Southeast Asia. In our view, a broader ATT would significantly enhance ongoing efforts to stem illegal trafficking of small arms and light weapons in the region.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.