



Kingdom of the Netherlands

Statement by the Netherlands

Third Conference of States Parties of the Arms Trade Treaty Treaty Implementation

Thank you Mr. Chair.

We align ourselves with the EU statement. In addition I would like to make a few remarks in my national capacity.

First of all, the Netherlands would like to thank Costa Rica and Switzerland for all their efforts, which led to a good basis for further discussion. As a result, the Netherlands fully supports the recommendations made in the co-chairs draft report to CSP3. The establishment of a working group on Implementation as a standing working group is an important step to assist States Parties with the Treaty's implementation.

As mentioned during the previous Conference it is the Netherlands' opinion that the meetings of this working group should be held on expert level to enhance progress in the content of discussions. In that respect the Netherlands would like to support the Swedish proposal to work with a fixed meeting schedule, as this would help experts to participate to plan their trips well in advance. The same counts for planning working group meetings and other meetings back-to-back.

In addition the Netherlands supports the idea of making translation services available (Spanish and French) for those working group meetings that rely significantly on participation of arms export controls experts from capitals. In the Netherlands view this is applicable for the Working Group on Implementation as well as the Working Group on Transparency and Reporting.

Finally, setting up an export/import control system is a lengthy and intensive process. The Dutch export control system has not been setup in a single day. This process started long before the coming into existence of the Arms

Trade Treaty. Therefore, the Netherlands underlines the importance of solid technical discussions with experts and sharing best practices in this working group as a concrete way to shape effective treaty implementation. Multilaterally, as well as bilaterally. We are ready any time and, if it is deemed useful, to share our experiences in this field.

Thank you Mr. Chair.