

Sixth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty
Geneva, 17-21 August 2020

General Statement – POLAND

We would like to thank the President of the CSP6, Ambassador Federico Villegas and Head of the Secretariat, Mr. Dumisani Dladla for their efforts to organize the Sixth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), despite the difficulties of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Poland fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the EU.

Prevention and elimination of illicit arms trafficking, in addition to the principle of transparency of international arms transfers, contribute to strengthening of international peace and security. Poland firmly supports and actively participates in the efforts of the international community to regulate the global trade in conventional arms and the ATT is a key instrument in this regard.

Welcoming with enthusiasm the newcomers to the ATT family, we encourage states that are considering signing the Treaty or are in the process of ratifying it to complete the necessary procedures to be able to join our community as soon as possible and help make the ATT truly universal.

In order to make a difference, the ATT should be implemented in its entirety. The Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF) is a valuable tool for assisting States Parties in implementing the Treaty's standards and for prospective members to facilitate their accession. That is why Poland decided to make a financial contribution to the VTF. We are convinced that despite temporary COVID-19 related difficulties with completion of VTF projects scheduled for 2020 they will be implemented in 2021.

We agree that transparency and exchange of information between States Parties are fundamental tools in preventing diversion. We welcome the idea to establish the Diversion Information Exchange Forum. This initiative serves both the transparency in the international arms trade and strengthening of national arms export control systems.

To secure the effective functioning of the Treaty, all States Parties should implement fully and on time their financial obligations. We support the initiative of the Management Committee to address the problem of the funding sustainability.

Regardless of the objective circumstances that prevent the direct participation of delegates in the CSP6, we are convinced that this year's Conference will be an important step towards the implementation of the ATT provisions.