

Your Excellency, Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of the Polish delegation I would like to express our appreciation to you, personally, and to the Government of Nigeria, for your efforts to prepare this Conference. I sincerely hope that during this meeting we will make significant progress.

Poland fully aligns itself with the statement made on behalf of the European Union. As the whole European Union, we attach particular importance to the full universalization of the ATT. We can prevent illegal circulation and trade of weapons only when all the main producers, exporters and importers become State-Parties to the Treaty; and when all respect and implement Treaty's provisions.

Universalization of the ATT and efficient implementation of its provisions by State-Parties requires meaningful and effective actions on the side of the Secretariat, it's best organization and use of all tools. The same concerns State-Parties. We all have to join our efforts to promote the Treaty and to convince those who have not yet ratified or have not signed the Treaty to do so.

With some astonishment we observe that still, after 3 years since the General Assembly adopted the Treaty, the number of states that ratified the Treaty is smaller than the number of States voting in favor of the Treaty on the 2nd of April, 2013. This shows that we all, who are seriously concerned about the international security, must spare no effort to make sure that our group grows. In this context we congratulate Guatemala for recently joining the Treaty. We count also on cooperation with international and national non-governmental organizations and civic associations to reach our citizens, politicians and the media.

Another key element is the promotion of the fullest possible transparency in arms transfers. Our national report covering 2015 is unclassified and open to the public. We appeal also to other State-Parties to adopt similar approach and the same level of transparency and openness.

Poland takes part in the European Union ATT Outreach Program. Though we have limited resources, we are ready to engage in further efforts of the international community to promote implementation of the Treaty as well as transparency of the arms transfers. We are also ready to assist bilaterally those countries that are willing to use our experience and help.

Improvement of the international security, as well as prevention and reduction of regional, inter-state and intra-state conflicts are the main tools for achieving the most important goal – that is human security, the fundamental right to live in peace, and the development of the mankind.

Let me finish Mr. President, by once again wishing You and all distinguished colleagues fruitful and substantial deliberations that could bring us closer to the realization of mentioned above goals.

Thank you.