

**Statement by  
Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative  
Sang-beom LIM of the Republic of Korea  
Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty  
(Monday, 30 August 2021)**

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Mr. President,

First of all, I would like to congratulate you on your assumption of the presidency of the 7<sup>th</sup> Conference of States Parties (CSP7) to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). I have confidence that this year's CSP will be successful with your able leadership. Please be assured of my delegation's full support throughout the course.

My delegation is also grateful to (Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sierra Leone, Minister of Defense of Gambia, Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu) for their insightful welcoming remarks.

On the thematic discussion on small arms and light weapons (SALW) and stockpile management, the Republic of Korea appreciates that the discussion on the President's theme highlighted the importance of stockpile management and the prevention of diversion of SALW in the ATT framework. I agree that the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons can hamper the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and negatively impact gender-based violence (GBV). The recommendations in the President's working paper is specific and clearer than the previous version in June. We support the adoption of the recommendations and once again stress that it will be meaningful when the recommendations are translated into Sub-working Groups' work plans and be discussed among States.

The Republic of Korea is doing its best to tackle the illegal trade of SALW by way of establishing a structured system for marking, record-keeping, and tracing the weapons. Since the Korean military and police agencies have an electronic system which manages the distribution of arms on the basis of national laws,

they can respond efficiently in case of urgency such as the detection of missing arms.

- *Defense Acquisition Program Act; Foreign Trade Act; and Gun, Daggers, Gunpowder Control Act*

My delegation highly appreciates the efforts of the co-chairs of the Working Group on Treaty Universalization (WGTU) to reach out to those outside the ATT even under these COVID-19 times. We welcome four new States Parties to the ATT: the People's Republic of China, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, and Niue. I am delighted to see that three of these States Parties are from the Asia-Pacific region, where we have the least ATT participants at present. The Republic of Korea, for its part, will continue to work on the universalization efforts in the Asia-Pacific region. As a start, we have completed the project of translating the Treaty Universalization Toolkit and the Welcome Pack into ten Asian languages last year. We have posted these translated documents on the ATT website with the assistance of the Secretariat, and we hope that all stakeholders will find these useful for their own bilateral and multilateral outreach activities.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to share that the Korean Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy has held virtual workshops in commemoration of the “2021 Trade and Security Day” on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July to raise awareness on export control and facilitate information exchange among industries and the relevant authorities. In addition, the Korean Defense Acquisition Program Administration will resume its annual International Export Control Conference in Seoul in June 2022, in two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and will reach out to participating industries and States as part of our universalization efforts.

I thank you, Mr. President.

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