

**Statement of Romania**  
**General Debate**  
**The Second Conference of States Parties to the**  
**Arms Trade Treaty**  
**Geneva, Switzerland, 22-26 August 2016**

Mr. President,

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, please allow me to thank Ambassador Emmanuel Imohe for his able stewardship and dedication during his tenure as Chair and Mr. Dumisani Dladla for his tireless efforts in fulfilling its duties as the Head of the Secretariat. My sincere appreciation also goes to Switzerland for its warm hospitality. I also commend the members of the Bureau, the Management Committee and the facilitators for the excellent work they have done in preparing this Conference.

Romania fully shares the views expressed by the European Union and wishes to make the following comments in its national capacity:

Romania considers that the outcomes of the first and the extraordinary Conferences of States Parties were genuine success and the decisions that were adopted constitute a solid basis for a robust and durable functioning of this first multilateral legally binding regime that regulates conventional arms trade. However, in order to bring closer the day when the ATT will start to have a truly practical impact on the ground, many issues still remain to be settled. To this end, it is not only the decisions taken here, at CSP, that matter, but also the decisions taken by each state at national level. We strongly believe that the concrete results which the ATT regime will produce depend on the effective and honest implementation of the ATT provisions by the States Parties.

It is our duty to keep the momentum and to continue to take a series of wise decisions through an inclusive process, which will allow varying views to be brought forward, so the States Parties can be aware of the full scope of issues and opinions on the table. In order to achieve this goal, Romania is confident that the concerted efforts of states, international organizations, civil society and industry will prove successful once again. First and foremost, we shall make every effort to allow the Secretariat to become fully operational shortly after the end of this conference.

Mr. President,

Illegal and irresponsible flow of arms is among the greatest challenges that the world is facing today. In the current international context marked by an escalation of internal and regional conflicts and an increasing number of terrorist acts it becomes more stringent the need to create or strengthen the already existing legal norms and regulations not only in the exporting states, but also in the importing and transit states, in order to prevent the irresponsible spread of arms. The success of the

Treaty depends on how States comply with their obligations and implement them to ensure their national controls systems are as robust as possible. It is our firm belief that no matter how strong a system is, there is always room for improvements. Romania attaches great importance to cooperation, transparency and information sharing. We consider exchanging best practices and learning from each other to be of utmost importance.

Romania has been a firm supporter of the ATT since the beginning of the negotiation process and was privileged to be among the first countries to contribute directly to its entry into force. This was possible due to the advanced national policies and practices in this field. The Romanian export controls system was established in 1992, marked by a modernization phase at the beginning of the last decade and configured, at the moment, after the strictest standards in the field. Romania complies rigorously to the provisions of the ATT, as well as all other international and regional export controls agreements.

Thus, I would like to reiterate Romania's availability to share its national experience and expertise with those states requiring assistance in implementing the Treaty's provisions, both in its national capacity as well as part of the team involved in the ATT component of the European Union's outreach program.

Mr. President,

Although the prospect of universalization of the Treaty is relatively distant, it must remain a primary goal of the regime. We truly believe that an effective and efficient implementation of the ATT would help us achieve a wider adherence. We must intensify our efforts both on national and regional level to raise awareness about the importance of arms export controls. Romania is of the opinion that every country, irrespective of its size or its place in the arms supply chain, has a role to play to prevent conventional arms from falling into the hands of unauthorized end users.

The universalization of the Treaty will also depend on the openness and transparency shown by the States Parties. A strong level of transparency, notably in the initial and annual reports required under the Treaty, will facilitate cooperation and build the confidence necessary for the Treaty's success. Bearing this in mind, we call upon all States Parties that have not submitted their reports yet and for which the deadline for sending them has already passed, to respect their commitments. Also, we encourage all States Parties to make their reports publicly available. We express our hope that CSP2 will agree upon the final reporting templates.

Mr. President,

Please allow me to conclude my intervention by reiterating the Romanian delegation's full commitment to actively participate in the discussions in order to create the needed framework for reaching the objectives established under the ATT and its utmost support to the work of the conference.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express our full support for Ambassador Klaus Korhonen's candidature for the Presidency of the Third Conference of ATT States Parties.

I thank you!