

STALNO PREDSTAVNIŠTVO REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE PRI URADU ZDRUŽENIH NARODOV IN OSTALIH MEDNARODNIH ORGANIZACIJAH V ŽENEVI

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA

STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

Third Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, 11-15 September, Geneva, Switzerland

Mr President, Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mr President, allow me to congratulate you for the work you have undertaken during the past months in the process leading up to this Conference.

In addition to the statement delivered and to be delivered by the European Union, I would like to contribute to this important discussion by pointing-out some additional perspectives in my national capacity.

To start with, let me reiterate our support to full implementation and universalization of the ATT. If applied to its highest potential, the ATT will contribute to advance international peace and security, reduce human suffering and promote cooperation, transparency and responsible action by State Parties.

The strength and success of ATT relies on effective implementation at the national level. In this process, close cooperation between the government, industry and civil society is of crucial importance. Only by working together we can halt the flow of illicit arms as well as safeguard legitimate trade.

We are concerned that a significant number of States Parties have not fulfilled their reporting and financial obligations. We therefore support proposals which will contribute to consistent implementation of obligations by States Parties in the direction of improvement of quality and timely submission of annual reports. We also urge States Parties which have not yet done so, to settle their financial obligations as soon as possible.

Slovenia is a strong supporter of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, so we welcome this year's thematic discussion on the relationship between the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and ATT. Slovenia believes ATT has an important role to play in achieving SDG 16, Target 16.4, which calls for significant reduction in illicit arms flows by 2030.

Finally, Mr. President, I would like to reiterate my delegation's full commitment to actively participate in the discussions and our utmost support for the work of the Conference.

Thank you Mr President