



State of Palestine
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates

State of Palestine
Agenda Item 4: Thematic Discussion on the Role of Industry

Thank you Madame President.

At the outset, the State of Palestine expresses its gratitude to you, your team, the ATT bodies and the ATT secretariat for their commendable efforts in organizing and facilitating this conference. We would also like to thank the panelists for their insightful presentations.

Madam President

The State of Palestine welcomes your choice of "The Role of Industry in Responsible International Transfers of Conventional Arms" as the theme for CSP9 and thank you for presenting the draft working paper on this crucial urgent matter. We believe that this theme merits focused attention and that industry has a duty and important role to play in promoting responsible arms trade.

We commend the working paper for acknowledging that Industry and private sector entities hold the responsibility for the security and safety of arms transfers. We emphasise that our deliberations on this theme should address **as a priority the corporate responsibility** to respect human rights. States must ensure that the arms industry is subject to human rights due diligence, that companies in this industry **do not engage** in activities that perpetuate irresponsible arms trade, and that they **do not develop weapons** that have the potential **to intensify arms races or further entrench conflicts and undermine regional or international peace and security**.

The State of Palestine fully supports the recommendation to include industry outreach activities, as well as the suggestion to promote the voluntary sharing of experiences and effective practices among states parties.

Madam President

Regrettably, we wish to highlight that repeated aggressions against the Palestinian people by the occupying Power, Israel, have been largely enabled and fuelled by the inflow of weapons and ammunition to Israel and **the failure of industry** and private sector entities to fulfil their responsibilities in this regard

In addition, Israeli military industry sources openly boast that their weapons and technologies are **"combat proven"** – in other words, **field-tested on Palestinian civilians** "human test subjects".



State of Palestine
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates

Importing from Israel is a direct encouragement for industry sources to continue on with such inhumane practices.

Madam President,

We remain committed to the ATT principles and its effective implementation, and emphasize the necessity to put an end to irresponsible trade of conventional arms that undermines international peace and security, facilitates commission of egregious crimes, and threatens the international legal order. We believe that a collaborative effort involving industry, civil society, and states parties is essential in achieving the objectives of the Treaty and promoting responsible arms transfers **for the greater good of international peace and security.**

I thank you.