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**WORKING GROUP ON TREATY UNIVERSALIZATION  
WORK PLAN FOR THE CSP4 PREPARATORY MEETINGS**

The Third Conference to the Arms Trade Treaty endorsed the ATT WGTU Co-chair's Draft report to CSP3 (ATT/CSP3.WGTU/2017/CHAIR/160/Conf.Rep: [En](#), [Fr](#), [Sp](#)), including ANNEX A (Terms of Reference for the Working Group on Treaty Universalization) and ANNEX B (Working Group on Universalization Initial Work Plan, Rev. 3).

Further, the Initial Work Plan, Rev. 3 suggests that "The Working Paper *Promotion of Arms Trade Treaty Universalization* ([ATT/CSP2/2016/WP.4/Rev.1](#)) will serve as a basic document for WGTU work at least until CSP4".

The documents mentioned above establish a solid basis for WGTU work between CSP3, that was held on 11-15 September 2017, and CSP4, to be held 20-24 August 2018.

The WGTU is scheduled to have two meetings before CSP4, on 07 March and 31 May 2018.

Activities:

1. WGTU meeting, 07 March 2018, suggested topics

- The status of ratifications, accessions, and signatures.
- Activities of the Presidency (including what has been noted (Annex A) during visits to non-States Parties).
- Parliamentary cooperation in promoting ATT universalization.
- Update on other activities by ATT stakeholders.

2. WGTU meeting, 31 May 2018, suggested topics

- The status of ratifications, accessions, and signatures.
- Activities of the Presidency (including what has been noted during visits to non-States Parties).
- Presentation of Defence Industry representative or NGO/think tank presentation.
- Regional organization(s) and/or UN Regional Center(s) in promoting ATT universalization.
- Update on other activities by ATT stakeholders.

3. Other activities

- Support a regional/subregional ATT workshop.
- Outreach by the Presidency, Vice-Presidents, WGTU Co-chair and other actors.

**ANNEX A**  
**CHALLENGES TO TREATY UNIVERSALIZATION**  
(NON-PAPER)

The following is a non-exhaustive list of challenges to Treaty universalization, so far identified by the Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Treaty Universalization (WGTU):

- 1 Raising political awareness toward ratification**
- 2 Prioritizing the ATT among the priority list of the Government or Parliament.**
- 3 Gaining understanding of the ATT, or alleviating skepticism toward it.**
  - 3.1 Misconceptions about the object and purpose of the Treaty.
  - 3.2 Skepticism, in particular, by relevant Ministries.
- 4 Domestic situations, be it political or security.**
  - 4.1 General elections.
  - 4.2 Gun lobby.
  - 4.3 Conflicts, etc.
- 5 Regional security situations.**
- 6 Accelerating the pace of domestic procedures for ratification.**
  - 6.1 It takes time for the Government to evaluate the implications of the Treaty obligations on the existing domestic systems/laws.
  - 6.2 Preparing necessary domestic laws also takes time.
  - 6.3 Good coordination among Ministries or between the Government and the Parliament is necessary.
  - 6.4 Rotation of government officials is not conducive.
- 7 Building capacity.**
  - 7.1 Human resources or expertise (to implement the Treaty).
  - 7.2 Financial resources (to fulfil financial obligations).
- 8 Reporting obligations.**
  - 8.1 Hesitation in transparency measures in general. Reporting is too detailed.
  - 8.2 Items to be reported are sensitive for national security.
  - 8.3 Reporting fatigue.
- 9 Awaiting others to ratify (neighboring states, major exporters and importers, etc.).**
- 10 Overcoming different views on the result of the ATT negotiation, including the text.**
  - 10.1 Adoption of the Treaty by a vote.
  - 10.2 Existence or non-existence of particular obligations in the Treaty.

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