



**STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA
AT THE GENERAL DEBATE
OF THE FOURTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES (CSP4)
TO THE ARMS TRADE TREATY (ATT)
TOKYO, JAPAN, 20 AUGUST 2018**

Mr. President,

At the outset, please allow me to thank you, Ambassador Nobushige Takamizawa of Japan for your tireless efforts in the preparation process of this Fourth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty. My delegation also extends our appreciation to the Secretariat, headed by Mr. Dumisani Dladla (*pronounced: Dumisani DEE-LA-LA*) and to the respective chairs of the working groups for their ongoing and invaluable support rendered to all States in realising this Conference.

Mr. President,

2. Malaysia remains committed towards supporting the ATT. We regard the ATT as a vital instrument towards the global community's initiative in ensuring a safer and more secure world. Additionally, Malaysia values the ATT as an instrument to strengthen existing national policies on conventional weapons which facilitate efforts to combat crimes and activities prohibited by the Treaty without compromising the legitimate right of States for self-defence. We believe that irresponsible transfer and poorly or unregulated flows of conventional weapons and ammunition fuel terrorism and organised crime. This may potentially lead to a wide range of humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences that could threaten peace and security both regionally and globally.

3. The effective implementation of this Treaty in all regions of the world is essential, especially in regions most affected by the trafficking of small

arms and light weapons. All States and the international community have to play their respective roles and establish concerted efforts in addressing these challenges. In this vein, Malaysia will continue to support international efforts, and stands ready to work with the international community towards achieving the objectives of ATT.

4. Malaysia also shares the view expressed by other States that the ATT and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) are closely interlinked and connected. The ATT and its principle of responsible trade in conventional weapons is a vital component towards achieving relevant SDGs, in particular Target 16.4 which calls for significant reduction in illicit financial and arms flows by 2030.

Mr. President,

5. As a signatory state, Malaysia remains committed towards ratifying the Treaty. Malaysia will continue to uphold the spirit of the Treaty and already has existing legislation to control the importation, exportation, transit, transshipment and brokering of strategic items and technology, including arms and related materials. Inter-agency consultations are also ongoing, in our efforts to review all obligations under the Treaty to ensure that our domestic legislation is in line with the Treaty's provisions prior to ratifying the ATT and to strengthen further existing mechanism.

6. Malaysia at this juncture is also considering to work with the ATT States Parties as well as international bodies in exploring other avenues to fulfil Malaysia's obligations under the Treaty.

Mr. President,

7. While we remain a strong proponent for the universalisation of the ATT as the framework for regulating international trade in conventional weapons as well as to prevent and eradicate their illicit trade, Malaysia entirely agrees that preventing diversion of conventional arms is one of the fundamental objectives of the ATT.

8. The risks of diversion are indeed major concerns at every stage of the lifecycle of all arms and ammunition. It goes without saying that all national control systems have vulnerabilities for diversion even when they are well developed and resourced. It is no doubt that addressing diversion requires a comprehensive approach to be taken in tackling all aspects of the problem throughout the transfer chain in addition to a shared sense of responsibility and cooperation among the ATT States Parties.

Mr. President,

9. Once again, Malaysia wishes to reaffirm our commitment to the ATT and my delegation looks forward to a productive Conference and supports you in building up consensus in this landmark Fourth Conference of States Parties.

Thank you, Mr. President.