

**FOURTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO THE  
ARMS TRADE TREATY  
(Tokyo, Japan, 20-24 August 2018)**

**WASSENAAR ARRANGEMENT  
Head of Secretariat**

Thank you, Mr. President. Let me congratulate you, the Government of Japan and all those involved on the occasion of this Fourth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).

On behalf of the Secretariat of the Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual Use Goods and Technologies, I welcome this opportunity to join you again and wish the Conference every success.

Mr. President, apart from meeting you in Vienna and here in Tokyo in February at the Asian Export Control Seminar, I and the WA Plenary Chair had the honour to join you at an event hosted by the Mexican Government in April this year on building synergies among relevant international instruments and mechanisms, including the ATT and the WA, to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons – working toward achieving Sustainable Development Goal 16.4. This very interesting discussion highlighted the value of information-sharing and cooperation among the international and regional bodies working in this field which, while having their own particular scope and purposes, can be seen as mutually reinforcing.

I also welcomed the opportunity for the WA Secretariat to present an overview of the WA Munitions List and describe the process for its annual review and updating to the relevant sub-group of the ATT Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation in Geneva in May. We would be happy to facilitate any follow-up to this engagement, such as by providing further technical information to assist understanding of the precise scope of WA Munitions List controls.

These examples highlight the complementary nature of our organisations' respective contributions to promoting transparency and responsibility in transfers of conventional arms, thus contributing to international peace and security by preventing destabilising accumulations, as well as their acquisition by terrorists.

The WA stands ready to share with other states its many years of experience as an intergovernmental information-sharing and standard-setting forum in this field.

As States Parties focus increasingly on their own domestic actions and challenges in implementing the ATT, the WA Munitions List may be of interest as a possible model for those developing or refining their national control lists. Another set of potentially useful tools, as States Parties pursue domestic implementation of key provisions of the Treaty, are the numerous non-binding guidelines that the WA has developed and updated by consensus over the years. These reference documents cover various aspects of export risk assessment and export control practice, including regulation of transit, transshipment and brokering activities, measures to prevent diversion and strengthen effective enforcement, as well as procedures for fulfilling national reporting obligations. Both the WA Munitions List and the Compendium of Best Practices, arranged thematically for ease of reference, are available on the WA website and in hard copy.

Indeed, a number of other countries already base their national export controls on the WA's Control Lists and best practices, either directly, or by, for example, applying the consolidated European Union (EU) Control Lists, which draw on the work of the WA and other multilateral export control regimes.

Mr. President, the WA pursues an active outreach programme aimed at promoting the wider establishment and maintenance of effective export control systems. It seeks to foster synergies with other international bodies working in similar areas. It also recognises the importance of engaging with industry, and this, I know, is a priority of the United Kingdom, our current Plenary Chair.

WA outreach includes collective policy and technical briefings, in which many countries at this Conference already participate. The WA recognises the need to tailor outreach to the different needs and interests of partners, and is open to considering bilateral dialogue and visits based on invitation, as well as events with a regional or thematic focus. Collective WA activities supplement export control outreach undertaken by WA Participating States in their national and/or regional capacities.

Mr. President, I hope that opportunities will continue to be taken to build on the alignment of purpose between the ATT and the WA. The endeavours of both organisations help to build confidence and common understandings among states in the regulation of conventional arms transfers, without impeding legitimate trade.

I and my colleagues stand ready to facilitate requests to WA Participating States for information or assistance that are referred to us through our ATT Secretariat counterparts. Thank you.