



IRELAND

General Debate

Statement by

Mr. Jonathan Patchell

Deputy Head of Mission at Embassy of Ireland, Tokyo

at the

Fourth Conference of States Parties to the

Arms Trade Treaty

Tokyo, 20 August 2018

Ireland is pleased to note that the number of ATT States Parties is now approaching one hundred; I congratulate Kazakhstan, Palestine, Chile, Cameroon and Brazil for their recent accessions to and ratifications of the Treaty. We are also conscious that this number still only represents circa 50% of UN member states. Thus, it is incumbent upon States Parties to redouble our efforts to promote the universalisation of this Treaty. International standards are strongest when they are universally applied. So we must continue to push for universalisation of the ATT. To this end, we support the adoption of the recommendations of the WGTU to further promote Treaty universalisation and to minimise identified barriers to participation.

For Ireland, diverse representation at the Conference of States Parties is a priority. Different voices and experiences will help guide our work and ensure that implementation of the Treaty effectively meets the many challenges posed by the illegal arms trade. To this end, we are pleased to have once again made a contribution to the UNDP's Sponsorship Fund for State Participation.

Mr President,

As the Treaty enters its fifth year since entry into force, the effective implementation of the ATT is a priority for us all. An effective Treaty will help create a more secure, stable world in which economic and social development can prosper.

Mr President,

The ATT is the first legally binding Treaty to recognize the links between the international arms trade and Gender Based Violence (GBV) and create obligations that aim to contribute to the global efforts to reduce arms-related GBV. The inclusion of GBV as a consideration in arms transfers has set, we hope, a precedent in arms control.

Ireland has given much thought and consideration to the effective implementation of all of the Treaty provisions, in particular the GBV provisions. At CSP3, we were pleased to launch a working paper on *Article 7 (4) and Gender Based Violence Assessments* that aimed to explore ways in which these GBV provisions could be effectively implemented. This year, we are pleased to have provided support to Control Arms to develop a practical guide on how States Parties can use the ATT to address GBV. We intend to introduce this practical guide for GBV risk assessments at a side event on Wednesday. We look forward to working with you all on this matter.

Mr President,

The contribution of Civil Society to our Treaty cannot be underestimated. Civil Society plays a crucial role in awareness-raising and is a key partner in our efforts to encourage universalization and effective implementation of the Treaty. To this end, we have maintained our support for the ATT Monitor, which represents an important contribution to the Treaty's implementation. In