



EU Key Messages

Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation Arms Trade Treaty

Geneva, 20-21 February 2024

Mr. Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The candidate countries North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania¹, Republic of Moldova and Georgia as well as the EFTA country Norway, member of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this statement.

Sub-working Group on Exchange of National Implementation Practices

We welcome a draft multi-year work plan for the WGETI Sub-working Group on Exchange of National Implementation Practices. In terms of sequencing of topics, the list is relevant and follows logical order.

We support in particular the idea of involving Voluntary Trust Fund beneficiary States into giving presentations about implementation stages and sharing their implementation experiences for the potential benefit of others. We encourage such States to actively engage in order to showcase their political commitment.

Since implementation of the Treaty is a national responsibility, any assistance that can be provided to States in this regard is both desirable and useful. Therefore, we are of the view that "international cooperation and assistance" as a cross-cutting theme will merit our prime consideration. We stress that it is important to identify early the opportunities for improvement, so that supporting States could better assess their assistance.

Addressing national control system and inter-agency cooperation issues as one of the first topics to be discussed within this group will give States Parties an opportunity to share experience and their national practices. Special attention should be given also to other topics, which will be discussed at a later stage of work of this group, such as information management and enforcement arrangements.

¹ North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

The EU thanks Romanian Presidency for its presentation on its national practice on inter-agency coordination and for bringing this topic to the ATT discussions as a chosen priority theme. Such awareness and potential lessons learnt for national implementation would be beneficial for effective Treaty implementation.