

Statement by the Delegation of Thailand
to be delivered by
Ms. Piyaporn Putanapan, First Secretary
the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations Office in Geneva
at the General Debate of the High Level Segment of
the First Conference of States Parties of the Arms Trade Treaty
24 August 2015, Cancun, Mexico

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Mr. Chair,

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, the Delegation of Thailand wishes to commend the Government of Mexico for all the hard work and leadership in the capacity of the Chair of the preparatory process and the Provisional Secretariat of the Arms Trade Treaty. We also wish to congratulate Mexico for the excellent organisation of this long awaited First Conference of States Parties.

Mr. Chair,

Thailand is proud to be one of the supporters of the ATT since its inception. We are heartened by the international community's united efforts to address the persistent problem of illicit arms trade by joining this landmark Treaty.

After signing the Treaty in November last year, Thailand has convened inter-agency consultations to discuss steps towards our ratification. Two national sub-committees under the Office of the National Security Council have been established to push forward the ratification process. The first sub-committee will be responsible for translating the text of the Treaty and examining our existing national laws that are relevant to obligations under the Treaty. Another sub-committee will promote and monitor the implementation of the Treaty, once approved for ratification by the National Legislative Assembly, and will raise public awareness regarding the importance of the ATT and its obligations.

Mr. Chair,

There has been significant progress in all crucial aspects of the implementation of the Treaty during the series of preparatory meetings and consultations. We now have a clearer picture of how the ATT will work to regulate the global arms trade and eventually eradicate human sufferings caused by illicit arms transfers. However,

it is still too premature for celebration. The Arms Trade Treaty has all the potential to put an end to this global threat but, even now as we speak, the illegal arms trade is still widespread in many parts of the world.

The decisions to be taken by States Parties in the next few days are very important as they will be the bedrock of this newborn Treaty. My Delegation urges all participants in this Conference to exercise their flexibility for the interests of the full and effective implementation of the Treaty. We believe that inclusivity and transparency should be the guiding principles which should be taken into consideration when making any decision on the Rules of Procedure, Financial Rules, Reporting Templates and in particular the determination of the Seat of the Secretariat and the appointment of its head.

Mr. Chair,

My delegation stands ready to cooperate and assist you in building up consensus in this landmark Conference.

Thank you

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