



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

**STATEMENT AT THE THIRD CONFERENCE OF STATES' PARTIES
CONFERENCE - ARMS TRADE TREATY – 11TH -15TH SEPTEMBER,
2017- GENEVA SWITZERLAND**

I THANK YOU MR. CHAIR FOR GIVING ME THE FLOOR.

CHAIR,

ON BEHALF OF THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT AND INDEED ON MY OWN BEHALF, ALLOW ME TO START BY AND COMMENDING YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP DURING THE LAST YEAR, TOWARDS HOLDING OF THIS CONFERENCE.

MAY I ALSO COMMEND YOU FOR PROVIDING THIS PLATFORM FOR MEMBERS TO DIALOGUE AND SHARE EXPERIENCES IN TERMS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARMS TRADE TREATY. IN THE SAME VIEN, I WANT TO THANK THE SECRETARIAT FOR ITS FACILITATION REGARDING THE PARTICIPATION OF OUR CAPITAL

BASED DELEGATES IN THIS MEETING AS WELL AS ALL THE PREPARATORY MEETINGS.

MR. CHAIR,

ZAMBIA WISHES TO HIGHLIGHT SOME OF THE MEASURES IT IS PUTTING IN PLACE TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY.

FIRSTLY, AMONG THE MEASURES BEING PUT IN PLACE TO MENTION BUT A FEW INCLUDE: ENACTMENT OF A NATIONAL LEGISLATION, DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL CONTROL LIST, MECHANISMS TO ENHANCE INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION AND COOPERATION, AS WELL AS CAPACITY BUILDING AND AWARENESS RAISING OF THE TREATY OBLIGATIONS AND ITS APPLICATION.

SIMILARLY, IN AN EFFORT TO FULLY COMPLY WITH THE TREATY'S ASPIRATIONS, A COMMITTEE OF INTER-MINISTERIAL OFFICERS HAS BEEN PUT IN PLACE TO LOOK AT HOW BEST WE CAN REALISE THE MEASURES PUT IN PLACE TO COMPLY WITH THE TREATY'S OBLIGATIONS.

IN THE SAME VEIN, ZAMBIA IS AWARE OF THE FACT THAT FOR THE TREATY TO BE EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY IMPLEMENTED, THERE IS NEED FOR WIDE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE ESPECIALLY TO STATES WHO HAVE NOT YET DEVELOPED MECHANISMS AND LEGISLATION. IN THIS REGARD, WE WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION EXPORT CONTROL PROGRAMME FOR ARMS AND THE GERMAN FEDERAL OFFICE OF ECONOMICS AND EXPORT CONTROL(BAFA) FOR THE SUPPORT THEY HAVE CONTINUED RENDERING TO US.

WE EQUALLY WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WORK OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY, IN PARTICULAR THE SMALL ARMS SURVEY IN THEIR EFFORTS TO BUILD AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF BROKERING COMMITMENTS UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF ACTION AND THE ARMS TRADE TREATY.

FURTHER, WE NOTE THAT TO ACHIEVE THE TREATY'S OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSE, THERE IS NEED TO PROMOTE ITS UNIVERSALITY. MY DELEGATION THEREFORE, WISHES TO COMMEND YOU FOR THE OUTREACH WORK

YOU CONDUCTED ON UNIVERSALIZATION WHICH HAS CONTRIBUTED IMMENSELY TO THE GROWTH OF THE TREATY'S MEMBERSHIP TO 92 STATES PARTIES WITH 41 SIGNATORIES.

WE THEREFORE WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONGRATULATE AND WELCOME BENIN, CAPE VERDE, HONDURAS, MADAGASCAR AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AS NEW STATES PARTIES.

UNIVERSALIZATION IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY, FOR WHICH THE DELIBERATE ROLE OF SUB-REGIONAL ACTORS AND INSTITUTIONS TO PERSUADE MORE STATES TO RATIFY OR ACCEDE TO THE TREATY SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED. WE THUS CALL ON STATES WHO HAVE NOT YET RATIFIED OR ACCEDED TO THE TREATY TO DO SO. WITH MORE STATES JOINING THE TREATY IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO RELEASE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) ON THE PROMOTION OF PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES AND TO ENSURE A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN ILLICIT ARMS FLOWS BY 2030.

WITH REGARD TO THE ARMS TRADE TREATY VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND, MY DELEGATION WISHES TO TAKE NOTE AND WELCOME ITS ESTABLISHMENT AND THANK THE DONOR STATES IN THIS REGARD. WE ARE POSITIVE THAT IT WILL ASSIST IN PROMOTING UNIVERSALIZATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING AMONG STATE PARTIES IN NEED OF SUPPORT FOR HUMAN AND INSTITUTIONAL ENHANCEMENT.

LASTLY CHAIR, INFORMATION SHARING AMONG STATES AND REGIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY CAN BE ANOTHER AVENUE FOR UNIVERSALIZATION. COORDINATION WITH THE CIVIL SOCIETY CAN HELP IN SUSTAINING TARGETED ACTIVITIES AT NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS IN SUPPORTING UNIVERSALIZATION THROUGH PROVISION OF TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND ADVICE TO STATES SEEKING RATIFICATION OR ACCESSION TO THE TREATY.

I THANK YOU.

