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24 May 2016

World Humanitarian Summit

Excellencies,

There is an inescapable link between the uncontrolled flow of arms and humanitarian crises.

Arms and ammunition, flooding into conflict zones and areas of armed violence and volatility lead to death and destruction. Further, they lead to displacement and refugee flows, allow terrorists too-easy access to weapons, and increase the level of human rights abuses.

Uncontrolled arms transfers fuel poverty and conflict.

In December 2014 the Arms Trade Treaty entered into force, marking a huge achievement for the international community. Making it work will be an even bigger achievement.

Support for the ATT, achieved after nearly two decades of campaigning from civil society continues to grow. We congratulate the most recent States, Georgia and Zambia, who ratified the Treaty just yesterday, bringing the number of States Parties to 85.

Yet there is no room for complacency. Irresponsible arms transfers continue. Over the last year several States who led the way for the ATT, are now breaking the very same Treaty they championed, with arms sales that are fueling



humanitarian suffering in Yemen. All States should commit to adhere fully to the Arms Trade Treaty, and deny arms transfers that will fuel humanitarian suffering.

Control Arms commits to working to support States in the universalization and implementation of the ATT. We will also monitor the Treaty's implementation, and provide reports to contribute to transparency around the arms trade. We commit to holding States to account and highlighting Treaty violations.

One person dies every minute, and millions more suffer as a result of armed violence. It does not have to be like this. Governments now have the power and the necessary instruments to bring the arms trade under control.

Thank you.