

**Conference of States Parties to the ATT (CSP 2017)
Geneva, 11 - 15 September 2017**

Daily Summary: Day 4 (Thursday, 14 September 2017)

International Assistance

This session began with presentations from Amb. Biotino (Germany) and Dumisani Dladla (Head of the ATT Secretariat) on the current status of the newly-established Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF).

The VTF has received donations worth \$1.9m from nine states, as well as a further \$140,000 from Ireland and the Netherlands. It has approved proposals from 16 countries, and released the first instalments of funds to 11. Seventy-five per cent of recipients are States Parties, and the majority (11 states) are from Africa. NGOs are implementing partners in nine projects.

14 States spoke in this session. All commended the VTF on its work. A few pledged to provide financial support for 2018: Germany, Finland and Switzerland. Netherlands pledged to keep supporting the sponsorship programme.

Australia raised the importance of cooperation with civil society, and mentioned the ATT Monitor, the ATT-BAP, and the Small Arms Survey Transparency Barometer as projects they are happy to support.

Japan proposed that part of the VTF donations are used to ease the ATT Secretariat's burden by expanding their capacity.

Cesar Jaramillo gave a [statement](#) on behalf of Control Arms, highlighting a [joint paper](#) (with Sweden) that explored different ways to improve participation in the ATT process. Control Arms has been running a sponsorship programme for civil society for more than ten years. This programme, supported by Germany and Sweden, has enabled 61 participants from around the world to attend CSP meetings this year.

UNDP presented on the sponsorship programme it administers. Sierra Leone raised concerns with the current running of the programme, particularly the difficulty in obtaining visas.

During this session the Philippines took the floor to condemn a statement delivered by Amnesty International on behalf of Control Arms during the Implementation session on Day 2, which referenced 'Irresponsible arms transfers [...] to the Philippines, which has seen [deliberate and widespread killings](#) of alleged drug offenders that appear to be systematic, planned and organised by the authorities.'

Control Arms responded, highlighting the impartiality and independence of Amnesty International's documentation of serious human rights violations in the Philippines, and inviting dialogue. Philippines later took the floor again to accept this offer of further dialogue.

Universalization

The session on Universalization resumed from Day 3, with six more states taking the floor.

Brazil, Cameroon, Canada and Chile gave updates on their ratification processes. Chile also called on 'all states to comply with obligations in the Treaty, including the Article 6&7 obligations not to make transfers which might violate IHL or human rights. We share the concerns of civil society in this regard.'

Stephen Singo gave an [intervention](#) on behalf of Control Arms, stressing that universalization must not be at the expense of robust implementation, and highlighting that effective implementation could encourage other states to join the Treaty.

Matters pertaining to CSP 4 (CSP 2018)

Japan was appointed President of CSP 2018, with Argentina, Georgia, France and South Africa appointed Vice Presidents.

The proposed dates for the next Conference are 20-24 August 2018. Japan has offered to host the event in Japan. While states welcomed the positive effect this may have on ATT universalization in Asia, budget considerations will have to be addressed before a final decision can be made.

France gave a statement on behalf of 27 countries calling for there to be greater commitment to multilingualism by having translations and interpretations at all intersessional meetings, and not just CSP. The ATT Secretariat confirmed that this has been included in next year's budget.

Shobha Shrestha, on behalf of Control Arms, [reminded delegates](#) that CSP 2018 is a 12 month process, which begins right after this Conference ends. She suggested gender-based violence and organized crime as a possible thematic foci for CSP 2018.

Matters pertaining to the ATT Secretariat

15 States spoke during a session to discuss the budget, staffing and mandate of the ATT Secretariat. The ATT Secretariat has an estimated budget of \$1,03m for 2018, 0.0001% of the annual cost of the arms trade, as Control Arms pointed out to the Conference in its statement, delivered by Elizabeth Kirkham. The [Control Arms statement](#) also agreed that the ATT Secretariat's workload has expanded significantly beyond its capacity, and supported recommendations to increase its capacity to manage the VTF and perform other required tasks.

States discussed three proposed options for the Secretariat's future management of the VTF. Sweden and New Zealand supported using a percentage of the VTF funds to increase staff capacity, while Guatemala and Mexico proposed that the overall staff of the ATT Secretariat should be increased from three to four people.

Side Events

Control Arms, Ireland and Sweden co-hosted an event on gender-based violence and the ATT. Cindy Ebbs (Control Arms) chaired the event, and described ongoing work to develop an accessible framework to guide states in implementing their GBV commitments under the ATT. Sarah Boukhary of WILPF introduced their new 'Weapons, war and women' toolkit to build the capacity of civil society in the MENA region to discuss and address gender-based violence. Amb. Beijer (Sweden) presented on their national implementation experience, and Emma Tobin (Ireland) briefed participants on their new working paper, which contains new policy proposals to further discussion of GBV under the ATT.

In an innovative panel event, hosted by Geneva Disarmament Forum, Ray Acheson (Reaching Critical Will), Callum Wilson (DCAF) and Marion Provencher (GMAP) attempted to discuss the issue of gender in disarmament while being suffering repeated 'mansplaining' by Rory Logan (GICHD). Each time a participant addressed the questions of the moderator (Richard Lennane, Geneva Disarmament Platform), they were talked down, or across by the 'mansplainer'. The event highlighted the gender dynamics of talking about and working in disarmament, as well as the importance of integrating a gender perspective into disarmament work.

UNODA hosted an event preparing for the 2018 Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). There will be five regional conferences in the building up RevCon3, as well as four thematic symposia, on SALW and the SDGs, Synergies between the PoA and the ATT, Developments in manufacturing, technology and design, and tracing & stockpile management in (post) conflicts.

CEECAC and ECCAS held an event investigating the complementarity between the ATT and the Kinshasa Convention, which just recently entered into force in March 2017. Speakers included Control Arms members Eugene Nyuydine (RASALAC) and Nounou Booto-Meeti (CPS-AVIP). Eleven Central African countries are members of the Kinshasa Convention,

which is focused on the proliferation of SALW, and creates a framework to implement the African Union's Agenda 2063: Silencing the Guns.

Watch the Control Arms [video diary](#) from day 4.