



**Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania  
to the United Nations**

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**STATEMENT BY**

**H.E. AMBASSADOR RAMADHANI M. MWINYI,  
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED  
REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON THE ARMED TRADE TREATY NEGOTIATIONS,**

**NEW YORK, 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2013**

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**Mr. Chairman**

At the outset I congratulate Ambassador Peter Woolcott and his bureau for having been elected to lead these negotiations with the view to reach a conclusion of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) – for the entire membership of the United Nations. The United Republic of Tanzania aligns itself with the statement of the African Group which was delivered by Nigeria.

**Mr. Chairman**

My delegation supports efforts to conclude an ATT geared for the entire membership of the United Nations and my delegation implores the august conference to have that objective throughout the negotiations. The ATT should not replace dialogue among and between nations to achieve disarmament.

The United Republic of Tanzania submits that the overall objective of an ATT is to become and remain an international vibrant instrument for the control and regulation of the trade in arms without prejudice to the right of nations for self defence as enshrined in the UN Charter and without impeding the right of nations to live in peace and security, enjoy freedom and pursue development.

**Mr. Chairman**

The ATT is not a tool for disarmament, rather it should be seen as part of the arms control regime. However, it does not provide a “*carte blanche*” for the manufacture, stockpiling, deployment and transfer of lethal weapons on the pretext that they are not for trade. For various reasons during the Cold War epoch fire arms were transferred and deployed to promote hegemony under the guise of national interests, while ultimately violating peace and security and obliterating human development in some countries.

**Mr. Chairman**

Detente in human society was not secured through peaceful negotiations but with a show or use of arms. However, neither conquest nor defeat could guarantee durable peace. In contemporary times fire arms have continued to wreck havoc despite the end to the cold war. Member States, groups and individuals, sometimes under the watch of the United Nations, have used weapons and accessories, even under make-shift shelter conditions, to cause insecurity and instability worldwide, by conducting acts of terrorism armed robberies, instability, and piracy and other crimes. Never for any reasons should these vices be conducted on account of any perpetrators getting access to weapons and their ammunitions , even under the guise of leisure.

**Mr. Chairman**

Regional and sub regional organizations as well as some sovereign nations in the group of “LDCs have done a lot of work not only to prevent and manage conflicts and to undertake activities that took a lot of resources but have also initiated projects and measures that significantly reduce idleness among the unemployed youth, thereby taking them out of the reach of recruiters for breaching peace and causing the vices mentioned earlier on, thereby creating a dichotomy between peace and security on the one hand and loss of lives and destruction of property on the other. Development in addition to good governance and democracy, the rule of law and respect to human rights, can offer a more attractive alternative to the unemployed youth that are easily lured into illegal business in weapons.

**Mr. Chairman**

Although the ATT is not a panacea to the armaments headache, it could be a useful tool in halting the proliferation and unnecessary accumulation of weapons for which both producers and buyers bear a differentiated responsibility.

**Mr. Chairman**

Implementation of the Armed Trade Treaty will require cooperation of both the manufacturers and buyers as key stakeholders in an endeavour to achieve peace, security and Development Those are virtues the UN is striving to attain. In order to ensure the implementation of the Treaty omnivesaratively, we cannot avoid using financial resources to undertake some activities including training or provision of equipments for record keeping and conducting patrols to facilitate sporting or arresting of violators. A small Fund and a limited group of staff may be availed to assist member states in implementation.

**I thank You**