



**FOURTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO THE ARMS TRADE TREATY  
TOKYO, 20 – 24 AUGUST**

**22 AUGUST 2018**

**TOPIC**

**DELIVERED BY: SCARLET CHEMARUM, KENYA NATIONAL DEBATE COUNCIL**

While further universalisation is important, it is universal *compliance* that is the critical objective. Robust implementation of the Treaty and strict observation of all its legal obligations are vital. It is unacceptable for a State to become Treaty member and to continue with arms transfer policies and practices as if it had not. Universal adherence depends on robust Treaty implementation.

This year Control Arms has run a #SprintTo100 campaign, to encourage further universalisation of the Treaty. With this in mind, we welcome announcements from Botswana and Canada about their ongoing accession processes.

Awareness raising of the Treaty's benefits has been a key part of this campaign. In my country, Kenya, for example, we have worked with young people to educate them about the ATT and to encourage them to work with their government on Treaty accession.

Control Arms members have also been active this year promoting the ATT in Asia. As already mentioned by New Zealand, Control Arms organised a meeting in Nepal, with the support of New Zealand, bringing together civil society, parliamentarians and officials from seven South Asian states on "Promoting universalization and strengthening implementation of the ATT in South Asia".

In Sri Lanka, we translated the Treaty text into two local languages and presented copies to key actors including the President, Government Ministers, the Speaker of Parliament, officials and the media.

Control Arms members played important roles at the Pacific Conference on Conventional Weapons Treaties in New Zealand, which promoted membership in and implementation of Pacific Island states in a range of weapons treaties, including the ATT.

We welcome the fact that regions including CARICOM and Europe have a very high Treaty membership, as do subregions such as West Africa. It is positive that neighbours can cooperate within the Treaty to bring regional arms transfers under control. We hope that regions with relatively low membership, such as Asia and the Middle East, will see this as an encouragement to increase Treaty membership.

We remind donor States in particular that for States with less capacity to implement the Treaty at a national level, legal, financial and technical assistance through bi- and multi- lateral channels remains key to increased universalisation.

Control Arms emphasises that capacity building for prospective States Parties is critical to encouraging their accession to the ATT. While States' donations to bodies including the ATT VTF have been generous, we remind States that the use of ODA already allocated for Security Sector Reform can be channelled into ATT capacity building as part of increasing incentives to membership.



Control Arms calls on States to:

- Recognise and insist on the importance of robust implementation: an ATT that is effective will be the most universalised
- Provide material support for Treaty universalisation initiatives
- Tweet and retweet the hashtag #SprintTo100, encouraging State Signatories and Observers to take concrete steps towards ratification

Thank you.