Eighth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty
Second Preparatory Conference
29 April 2022
Delivered by: Cesar Jaramillo, Board Chair of Control Arms

Thank you Mr. President.

We would like to thank you, the Working Group Chairs and Facilitators, as well as the ATT Secretariat for another excellent Session this week. As always, the Control Arms coalition appreciates the opportunity to engage substantively - and in-person - with so many ATT stakeholders from all regions.

This year, we are pleased to note that some of the CSP5 recommendations on Gender are being reflected in the deliberations and outputs of the sub-working groups and the ATT Secretariat. In February of this year, the Working Group on Transparency and Reporting addressed the issue of Gender and Reporting, with a presentation and discussion on how to integrate gender perspectives and improve data collection with regard to ATT reporting. We also welcome the fact that the ATT Secretariat continues to draw attention to gender-balance among delegations attending CSP meetings.

Nevertheless, Control Arms would like to reiterate our concern regarding the lack of a dedicated framework for reviewing progress in the implementation of commitments arising from the annual thematic focus of other CSP Presidencies. We consider this a missed opportunity and would encourage the Conference to explore how this could be addressed.

One option would be to establish a standing agenda item at each CSP that allows for discussion of progress on thematic issues highlighted by previous Presidencies.

Another option could be to seek agreement among the various Chairs, Facilitators and Presidencies on the allocation of previous thematic commitments among the Working Groups at the beginning of each CSP cycle and their incorporation into the relevant Agendas. This would create opportunities for all ATT stakeholders to contribute to advancing this important work. At each CSP, Working Group Chairs could then share a summary of their accomplishments in this regard.

In summary, Control Arms sees value in the explicit allocation of work relating to themes of previous presidencies. Such clear allocation would provide more visibility to these efforts, which in turn would strengthen links and synergies among the work of all ATT stakeholders.
As this session closes, Control Arms would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to Sarah Parker for her dedicated service to all ATT stakeholders in her role within the ATT Secretariat. Sarah’s unrivaled expertise, integrity, professionalism and good humor has made working with her both a pleasure and a privilege. Sarah, we wish you all the very best in your future endeavors.

Thank you, Mr. President.