
CONTROL ARMS SWISS ASSOCIATION 2021 ACTIVITY REPORT

1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2021
(WITH AN EXTENSION TO JANUARY 2022 FOR SOME ACTIVITIES)

For the Control Arms Swiss Association the key areas of work are (1) Leveraging Geneva-based processes to maximise the impact of the ATT; (2) Working to ensure the effective implementation of the ATT; (3) Contributing to universalization of the ATT. The work carried out by the Control Arms Swiss Association in these three different areas is set out below.

1. Leverage Geneva-based processes to maximise the impact of the ATT, including through humanitarian and human rights platforms, and SDG processes; and deepen knowledge and expertise through direct work with Geneva-based Missions, institutions and other NGOs providing technical and analytical expertise, and inputting to joint endeavors on research and policy analysis as part of the existing networks:

- In the area of human rights, Control Arms participated in the preparations and negotiations of the Human Rights Council Resolution titled, "Impact of arms transfers on human rights". Control Arms continued to participate in the QUNO led coordination on human rights and arms transfers and to explore the connection between human rights and the ATT, especially concerning business and human rights and the obligations of freight forwarding companies.
- On 11 March 2021, Control Arms in partnership with GCSP held an online roundtable on "Decision making for disarmament in the time of Covid", which examined how decisions had been made in disarmament and arms control fora in the first year of COVID and how these processes had impacted on the different regimes. More than 70 people participated in this event.
- At the invitation of the United Nations Office Disarmament Affairs, Control Arms presented to the 2021 Disarmament Fellows on the work of civil society and the ATT.
- On 25 January 2022 (which was postponed from December due to COVID), Control Arms organized and hosted a roundtable with Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, ICBL, ICAN, GCSP, QUNO and Mr. Peter Herby on the state of compliance with the conventional weapons treaties and more generally, the level of engagement by diplomats on disarmament and arms control in disarmament and arms control processes.
- On 27 January 2022, Control Arms organized and moderated an online discussion on "Corporate responsibility, human rights and the arms industry - coming together or remaining apart".

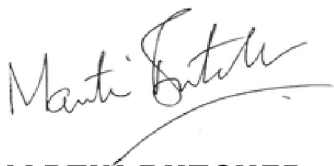
2. Ensure that ATT implementation is effective, through monitoring and holding States Parties accountable to their obligations, and working with the ATT Secretariat and CSP Presidencies to maximise the impact of ATT-related outreach activities and coordination of civil society to help ensure effective annual Conferences of States Parties:

- Engagement in the ATT CSP Process: Control Arms maintained a close working relationship with the CSP7 President, and where possible provided support to the Presidency, and organized for the President to brief civil society members on his objectives. Control Arms researched, provided drafting support and a list of key partners for the preparation of the President's thematic paper titled "Strengthening efforts to eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and ensure efficient stockpile management".
- On transparency and reporting, Control Arms sent individualized messages to ATT States Parties which have submitted private reports urging them to make their reports public. Those messages were also followed up with telephone calls.
- In preparation for the Working Group meetings held on 21 April 2021, Control Arms held one roundtable briefing for all delegations.
- During the deliberations on whether or not the Working Group meetings and CSP7 would be held in virtual, hybrid or written formats, Control Arms has also coordinated with its coalition members, engaged bilaterally with States Parties, and communicated with the President of CSP7 on the need for transparent and inclusive processes.
- In preparation for CSP7, Control Arms organized three roundtable briefings for the African (with the invitations, powerpoint presentation and interpretation in French) - 20 August 2021, Asia-Pacific - 19 August 2021; and Latin American regions (invitation and powerpoint presentation in Spanish) - 24 August 2021.
- Virtual Coalition Consultations in Preparation for CSP Engagement: In the lead-up to and during CSP7, Control Arms redesigned the Sponsorship Programme to enable all Coalition Members the opportunity to engage in the preparations for and participate in the Conference.
- Expansion of Control Arms Online Presence: In the lead-up to CSP7, Control Arms implemented its new "#ReadytoEngage" campaign, which focused on raising awareness of and engaging diplomats and civil society in all aspects of the ATT and the CSP7 agenda. The campaign was carried out on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. It included a 10-day-countdown to and comprehensive coverage of CSP7.
- On 27 January 2022 (which was postponed from December due to COVID), Control Arms hosted an in-person roundtable with lunch, which included the following participants: Panama, Republic of Korea, European Union, GICHD, ICRC, UNIDIR and Small Arms Survey on the way forward on the ATT. The meeting was an opportunity to speak on the different organization's priorities concerning the ATT and how to progress universalization.

3. Contribute to universalization of the ATT through high-quality, targeted advocacy and information sharing, working closely with Geneva-based Missions, particularly States Parties and Signatories from the global south:

- Support for the ATT CSP7 President: Control Arms actively supported the President of CSP7 on universalization, including providing advice on the positions of non-States Parties; drafting letters, concept notes and reports; and participating in consultations.
- African Region: Throughout 2021, Control Arms continued to coordinate with partners on universalization in Africa. For example, Control Arms exchanged information with the ICRC on the progress by Kenya towards joining the ATT and met with the representatives of that Government attending CSP7.
- Asia-Pacific Region: On 17 June 2021, Control Arms organized an online roundtable discussion on “Promoting the Arms Trade Treaty in the Asia-Pacific Region” in cooperation with the Permanent Representatives of Australia, Japan and New Zealand.
- Middle East and North Africa Region: On 10 November 2021, Control Arms organized a virtual roundtable for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region. Arms spoke directly to Algeria, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia on their engagement in the ATT. In early December 2021, Control Arms hosted a follow-up virtual roundtable to the MENA Roundtable.
- Throughout 2021, Control Arms spoke directly to non-States Parties and urged them to join the ATT, sent follow-up messages, and exchanged information on universalization prospects with organizations such as the European Union, ICRC and UNIDIR.

#ReadyToEngage Small Grants Program: As Control Arms continued to adjust its activities to accommodate the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, FDFA supported Control Arms in transitioning its annual coalition sponsorship program, which traditionally brought civil society members to Geneva to participate in in-person meetings, into a small grant program available to Control Arms coalition members that work on ATT universalization and implementation on the national and regional levels across the globe. The purpose of the #ReadyToEngage small grant program remained in line with the purpose of the coalition sponsorship program: to increase participation in the Geneva-based ATT process.



MARTIN BUTCHER

PRESIDENT OF CONTROL ARMS SWISS ASSOCIATION

JUNE 13, 2022