

Permanent Mission of Italy UN - Geneva

Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation Sub-working group on art. 6 & 7

Geneva, 20 February 2024

Mister Chair,

At the outset, let me congratulate you on assuming the function of Chair for this Working Group that in line with the decisions approved during CSP9 is going to undertake a new more practical and pragmatic approach at which we look at with great interest.

Italy aligns itself with the statement delivered yesterday by the European Union. I would like to deliver the following remarks in my national capacity.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Facilitator for presenting the list of possible draft elements for Chapter 3 (Art 7 – Export and Export Assessment). We consider this to be a rather comprehensive list and an accurate reflection of presentations and discussions occurred in this forum, but we also support your wish to further fine tune specific factors States Parties look at in implementation of art. 7, such as the assessment of information sources and exchange of good practices on the topic of gender based violence.

As we had the opportunity to address in previous meetings in this forum, in Italy the National Authority on Armament Export (UAMA) is the entity tasked with supervising the whole system of export of military weapons. The Italian regulatory system lays emphasis on preventive measures which encompass assessing the political and military capacity of the receiving country; assessing human rights record and the extent of domestic diversion in the Country; verifying the accuracy of information provided by the Italian exporting company, including legalization and controls through diplomatic channels of the signature of the declared final end-user. A list of countries to be considered with particular attention or at risk as an export destination for weapons is revised every six months.

Italy does not practice direct inspections and post-delivery controls abroad. We rely on information collected through diplomatic channels and international organizations. For specific categories of weapons, which are more exposed to diversion risks, like small arms and light weapons (SALW), in addition to the above mentioned measures, we deem it

essential to share as much information as possible with Partners and international organizations, also seeking cooperation with the private sector, NGO's and civil society.

We look at enhancing communication, exchange of information and closer cooperation between different entities, State or non-governmental, working in the field of fighting gender based violence abroad. The Italian Development Cooperation, which since 2016 is managed by an independent Agency, has a long standing experience of development programs aiming at promoting gender equality, enhancing women empowerment and countering domestic violence. A wider sharing of experience among different actors implementing activities in this field may contribute to establish better awareness and encourage a more complete approach also in terms of arms export control, within the scope foreseen by art. 7.4 of the ATT.

Thank you for your attention.