



Permanent Mission of Italy
UN - Geneva

Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)
Working Group on Transparency and reporting (WGTR)
Geneva, 23 February 2024

Co-Chairs,

We commend the work you are conducting on this relevant topic.

Italy aligns itself with the statement of the European Union. I would like to add some remarks in my national capacity.

Transparency and reporting are core elements of the ATT. Being part of the ATT means undertaking a fundamental obligation to report on arms export decisions, doing that regularly and on time. We believe that this new multi-year work plan dealing with national implementation practices, which mirrors the work plan presented to us in the WGETI, is a good step forward in order to have a structured and focused discussion on reporting and information exchange.

Italy is fully committed to effective and timely reporting. At national level, the President of the Council of Ministers reports to Parliament with his own report by 31 March of each year in relation to the operations authorized and carried out by 31 December of the previous year, also with regard to operations carried out in the framework of intergovernmental programs or following the granting of a global project license or in relation to them. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Interior, Defence, Finance, Industry and Commerce, state shareholdings and foreign trade, as far as they are concerned, report annually on the activities related to arms transfers to the President of the Council of Ministers which attaches these reports to the report to Parliament previously mentioned, which is a document publicly available. At international level, as a member of the ATT, we fulfill our obligations through the online reporting tool and we encourage more States to take advantage of this fully digital version of the initial and annual reporting template.

We strongly support the efforts aimed at enhancing openness and transparency in the implementation of the Treaty. In this context, since 2020 Italy has decided not to avail itself of the Art 13.3 clause, allowing States to exclude from their annual reports commercially sensitive or national security information, and to provide the ATT Secretariat with any data concerning countries of origin and destination of all categories of weapons.

We are concerned by the decreasing number of reports and we call on all States Parties to comply with these core obligations. In this sense we also support training initiatives, confidence-building measures, and the use of a clear and uniform terminology for the presentation of the reports. We understand the challenges encountered by some States Parties in fulfilling this task and we support to take forward the discussion on the “voluntary regional reporting champions initiative” discussed during CSP9.

We look with interest also at synergies with other relevant organisations and take note in this context of the tick-box provided by the current ATT Annual Reporting Template to allow UNODA to use the relevant information within the report of a State Party as a basis for the report to the United Nations Register on Conventional Arms (UNROCA).

Thank you for your attention.