



Statement delivered by South Africa on Transparency and Reporting at the ATT Twelfth Conference of State Parties (CSP12), CIGG Geneva, Switzerland 24 to 28 August 2026

Thank you, Chair.

South Africa welcomes the Chair's Report of the Working Group on Transparency and Reporting and commends the Chair, the ATT Secretariat and all stakeholders for their efforts to strengthen transparency and reporting under the Treaty. We reaffirm that transparency and reporting remain fundamental pillars of the ATT and are essential for building confidence, accountability and effective Treaty implementation.

South Africa notes with concern that reporting rates remain below the level required to fully realise the objectives of the Treaty and joins calls encouraging all States Parties to fulfil their reporting obligations in a timely manner and to submit any outstanding reports. We also encourage States Parties to update their Initial Reports whenever significant implementation measures have been adopted at the national level.

Annex 1: Informal Sounding Board Group of Interested WGTR Stakeholders

We welcome the proposed modalities for the establishment of an Informal Sounding Board Group of Interested WGTR Stakeholders. We recognise the value of creating a flexible and technical mechanism that can provide feedback and expertise to support the ATT Secretariat's ongoing work on reporting tools, information exchange mechanisms and other transparency-related initiatives.

We support the intention to improve user engagement in the development and refinement of ATT reporting and information management tools. In our view, enhanced consultation with States Parties and relevant stakeholders can contribute to more practical, user-friendly and effective systems that respond to the needs identified by reporting authorities.

At the same time, South Africa is of the view that the Sounding Board Group should remain informal, inclusive, transparent and resource efficient. Its work should complement, and not duplicate, the mandate and responsibilities of the Working Group on Transparency and Reporting.

Annex 2: Proposed WGTR Mandate for the Period between CSP12 and CSP13

South Africa supports the proposed mandate contained in Annex 2 and agrees that the Working Group should continue to focus on practical measures aimed at improving reporting compliance, enhancing transparency and facilitating information exchange among States Parties.

Check against Delivery

We particularly support continued work on improving reporting tools and templates, strengthening assistance and capacity-building initiatives, and promoting the exchange of national experiences and good practices relating to ATT reporting obligations.

Furthermore, South Africa supports efforts aimed at enhancing inter-operability, usability and accessibility of ATT reporting mechanisms, including the continued assessment of the online reporting tool and information exchange platform. These initiatives should contribute to reducing administrative burdens and making reporting more efficient for States Parties.

We also welcome the Working Group's continued focus on practical transparency issues and support ongoing exchanges on national implementation practices, including parliamentary and executive oversight mechanisms that contribute to accountability and confidence-building.

In conclusion, South Africa supports the recommendations contained in the WGTR Chair's Report, including the proposals in Annexes 1 and 2, and remains committed to strengthening transparency, information exchange and reporting compliance as essential components of effective implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty.

Thank you, Chair.