

Remarks by Bangladesh Delegation for ATT CSP
General Debate
25 August 2026, Geneva

Thank you, Madam Chair.

At the outset, we deeply appreciate you and the ATT Secretariat for your tireless efforts in convening the 12th Conference of States Parties.

As a responsible member of the international community and a signatory to all major multilateral disarmament treaties, Bangladesh remains steadfast in its commitment to general and complete disarmament. We firmly believe that effective disarmament is inseparable from the establishment of peace, stability and security, both regionally and globally.

Guided by this principle, Bangladesh has consistently strengthened its engagement in UN peacekeeping and peacebuilding initiatives, earning wide recognition for its contributions to global peace and security.

Building on this commitment, Bangladesh actively participated in the negotiations of the ATT and became the first South Asian country to sign it in 2013. We recognize the Treaty's critical role in halting the illicit trade of conventional arms, which fuels violence, exacerbates conflicts and inflicts heavy humanitarian costs on civilians. We further acknowledge that the ATT's emphasis on responsible transfers, risk assessment, transparency, international cooperation and accountability provides practical tools for preventing conflict escalation and preserving pathways to peace.

And in today's world, this is even more relevant, given the ongoing conflicts in different parts of the globe, including in the Middle East.

Mr. Chair,

Our national practices reflect the core objectives of the ATT. Our domestic control framework, anchored in the Arms Act and complemented by relevant customs, import-export control, and administrative measures, provides controls over the manufacture, possession, import, export, transport and transfer of arms and ammunition. We will continue to strengthen stockpile management, record-keeping systems and the legal and regulatory framework needed to stay ahead of evolving threats.

Bangladesh also recognizes the complementarity of the ATT, the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the International Tracing Instrument in strengthening national and international efforts against illicit arms flows.

In its national reporting under the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the International Tracing Instrument, Bangladesh has outlined measures concerning licensing, end-user documentation, marking, record-keeping and tracing. These measures contribute to preventing unauthorized transfers and diversion and demonstrate Bangladesh's commitment to responsible arms control. We are also committed to preventing our territory from being used as a conduit for illicit trade of arms, in line with our "zero tolerance" approach to terrorism and violent extremism.

As a signatory to the ATT, we are also considering investments in state-of-the-art arms marking and tracing technologies and enabling legal regimes, which will gradually support eventual accession and strengthen both national and regional security.

We value inclusive dialogue between States Parties, signatories and other States, particularly where it facilitates exchange of practical experiences without prejudging national decisions on treaty adherence. We also welcome international cooperation to address gaps in capacity and technology that may limit compliance with the Treaty.

To conclude, Madam Chair, we reiterate our commitment to constructively engaging in ATT discussions, sharing national practices and collaborating with States Parties to uphold the principles and objectives of ATT.

I thank you.
