



Twelfth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty

27 August 2026
CICG, Geneva, Switzerland

Agenda Item 10: Draft Five-Year Strategy for the Arms Trade Treaty



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Madame President,

The Philippines thanks the Extended Bureau and the ATT Secretariat for the inclusive consultations and welcomes the proposed draft elements as a useful basis for the next phase of work.

We support a concise, practical, and implementation-oriented five-year strategy. It should provide direction without creating new legal obligations, duplicating existing structures, or adding reporting burdens. Its value will lie in focusing limited resources on a manageable number of priorities and connecting the work of the Working Groups, the DIEF, the Gender Focal Points, the Voluntary Trust Fund, and the Secretariat.

For the Philippines, four priorities deserve emphasis. First, stronger application of Articles 6 and 7, including usable risk-assessment methods, reassessment when material new information arises, and attention to foreseeable civilian harm. Second, national implementation, including inter-agency coordination, transit, trans-shipment, brokering, diversion prevention, and effective national control lists. Third, universalization advocacy linked with tailored assistance, especially in underrepresented regions such as Asia-Pacific. Fourth, sustainable international cooperation and assistance that leaves behind functioning institutions, trained personnel, and retained national capacity.



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The Strategy should also remain responsive to current and emerging implementation issues. The four Philippine working papers propose practical areas for attention: responsible transfers and supply chains; drones and other all-domain armed unmanned systems, autonomy, and cybersecurity; the protection of critical civilian infrastructure; and the maritime dimensions of transfer controls, particularly in volatile border-adjacent settings. These themes can be addressed within existing Treaty provisions, national control systems, and the mandates of established bodies.

We support cross-cutting attention to gender, international humanitarian and human rights law, stakeholder participation, evidence-based decision-making, transparency, and financial sustainability. Monitoring should use a limited set of meaningful indicators and existing processes wherever possible. Milestones should measure institutional and humanitarian impact, rather than activity alone.

The Philippines supports an inclusive and transparent intersessional process toward CSP13, with geographic balance and continued opportunities for input from States Parties and relevant stakeholders. Consensus and national ownership should guide the final Strategy.

Thank you, Madame President.