

Arms Trade Treaty – CSP12
Transparency and Reporting
Agenda Item 6
Australia

President,

Transparency reporting is critical in building trust and confidence among States Parties. It can also help us understand where assistance is needed and foster collaboration in achieving our common ATT goals.

Australia has submitted a working paper on transparency reporting to CSP12. The Working Group on Transparency and Reporting was consulted, and we encourage States Parties and the ATT Secretariat in particular to consider the ideas outlined in this paper, share lessons learned and progress practical steps to improve transparency reporting.

The ATT's reporting obligations support both transparency and accountability. Reporting can assist build clarity in terms of the developments relating to the implementation of the ATT, enable informed decision-making, demonstrate the impact of the ATT, and identify challenges hindering its implementation. Data produced through annual reports will be invaluable in advancing any strategy agreed by States Parties to improve ATT implementation.

President,

Australia has consistently made its annual reports available for public scrutiny. We see this as important in demonstrating our commitment to the Treaty. We encourage States Parties to submit their reports and to make them publicly available. Without transparency reporting data, it can be difficult to

understand where States Parties are making progress and where challenges and gaps remain. And this affects the ability to provide assistance where it is needed.

President,

Australia's working paper usefully sets out, in one place, the support mechanisms available to States Parties.

The paper highlights common challenges impacting on transparency reporting across a number of conventional arms control instruments including:

- awareness of the reporting obligations and processes,
- capacity and resources, including materials in local languages,
- interagency cooperation and coordination,
- national security considerations, and political support.

We have set out ten practical measures which may be taken to improve reporting outcomes and encourage you to explore these.

President,

Australia sees value in continuing work to identify and build synergies in transparency reporting across conventional arms control instruments. We encourage States Parties to consult the working paper and trust it will be a useful reference tool.

Thank you.