

12th Conference of States Parties (CSP12) of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)

Agenda Item: 6. Transparency and Reporting

Geneva, August 25, 2026

Speaker: Ivan Marques, Secretary of Multidimensional Security of the OAS

Thank you, Madam Chair.

On behalf of the OAS, I would like to provide additional information on the Regional Communication Mechanism on Licit Transfers of Firearms and Ammunition (MCTA). Developed with the support of the European Union, the MCTA is a voluntary digital platform designed to strengthen transparency, and information-sharing, in the control of transfers of firearms, their parts and components, and ammunition.

It provides authorities with a secure environment through which they can communicate directly and in real time regarding specific transfer processes. While the system is primarily designed to facilitate communication among licensing authorities, it also enables customs and border control agencies to participate. This allows authorities to verify licensing information against customs documentation, exchange delivery confirmations, incorporate data on the actual movement of goods, and triangulate information throughout the transfer process, helping to reduce information silos and strengthen efforts to prevent diversion.

The platform's real-time functionality enables authorities to notify counterparts of the issuance, denial, revocation, or completion of licenses; submit verification requests; ask questions regarding specific transfers; exchange supporting documentation; and share alerts, all within a single secure communication thread. In addition, the MCTA includes a voluntary risk management repository through

which authorities may share information on diversion cases, illicit routes, denied or revoked licenses, unauthorized operators, and emerging trafficking patterns, helping to better inform risk assessments and licensing decisions.

I am pleased to announce that the development of the MCTA is nearing completion and that the OAS is preparing to launch a pilot process. Participating States will be able to test the platform using simulated transfers, provide feedback, and contribute to its final refinement. Participation does not require the use of real transfer data and does not imply any future commitment to adopt the mechanism. The pilot is open to all interested States, within and beyond the Americas.

For those interested in learning more, the OAS and the GICHD will host a side event tomorrow morning at Maison de la Paix, where we will present the MCTA, the pilot process, and related digital tools in greater detail. We warmly invite all delegations to join us for breakfast and the discussion.

Thank you.