



**Statement delivered by South Africa on Gender Related Commitments at the ATT
Twelfth Conference of States Parties (CSP12), CIGG Geneva, Switzerland 24 to 28
August 2026**

Thank you, Madame President,

South Africa wishes to thank the Gender Focal Points, Spain, Mexico and Togo for their comprehensive update and we commend them for the continued leadership in advancing gender responsive implementation of the Treaty.

We acknowledge the clear progress made in strengthening transparency, institutional memory, and the practical integration of gender considerations across ATT processes.

The ATT is the first disarmament treaty of its kind to specifically make provisions for gender related considerations as part of the risk assessments for arms exports. Article 7.4 further requires States Parties to take into account the risk of conventional arms being used to commit or facilitate serious acts of gender-based violence or serious acts of violence against women and children. As gender-based violence continues to affect communities across regions and in situations of armed conflict and insecurity, the effective implementation of this provision remains an important responsibility for all States Parties.

South Africa therefore recognises the important achievements highlighted today, including the development of tools that support States Parties in assessing gender-based violence risks under Article 7(4), and the growing engagement of national stakeholders in gender responsive arms control. These efforts contribute directly to more effective and accountable implementation of the Treaty.

At the same time, we take note of the challenges identified by the Gender Focal Points, particularly the need for sustained political commitment, adequate resourcing, and continued capacity building to ensure that gender related obligations are fully understood and operationalised. South Africa supports ongoing work to address these gaps, including through peer-to-peer exchanges to share information, technical assistance, and strengthened coordination within regional organisations.

In closing, South Africa reaffirms its commitment to advancing gender responsive implementation of the ATT and to supporting the work of the Gender Focal Points. We look forward to continued dialogue and practical cooperation to ensure that gender considerations remain central to our collective efforts to prevent harm and promote responsible arms transfers.

I Thank you