



**Statement of the Kingdom of Norway**  
**The Twelfth Conference of States Parties (CSP12) to the Arms Trade Treaty**  
**24 – 28 August 2026**  
**General Debate**

President,

First, allow me to thank you and your team for your excellent leadership of the Arms Trade Treaty over the past year. I would also like to express our gratitude to the ATT Secretariat, the Working Group Chairs, and all stakeholders for their dedicated efforts in support of the Treaty.

President,

Norway remains firmly committed to the ATT and its humanitarian objectives. We continue to regard the Treaty as a key instrument for reducing human suffering by establishing the highest possible international standards for regulating international trade in conventional arms.

Since the Treaty entered into force, we have made significant progress while also facing new challenges and increasing complexity. We therefore warmly welcome the renewed momentum generated by the proposal of ATT's new five-year strategy. We believe the strategy can provide an important framework for guiding our collective work in the years ahead.

At the same time, ambition must be matched by prioritization. The success of the strategy will depend on our ability to identify where the ATT can have the greatest impact and to ensure that our limited resources are directed accordingly. Norway also welcomes other recent initiatives by States Parties to advance Treaty implementation, including efforts to strengthen youth participation and the establishment of gender focal points under the ATT.

These initiatives reflect a growing recognition that inclusive participation can enhance the effectiveness of arms control efforts. Norway underlines the importance of integrating gender perspectives into the implementation of ATT. Such perspectives help States Parties address the links between illicit arms flows and sexual and gender-based violence and violence against women and children.

President,

Norway remains committed to the universalization of the ATT, and we warmly welcome Vanuatu and Ecuador to the ATT community. We encourage all States that have not yet joined the Treaty to do so and urge signatory States to advance their ratification processes. The effectiveness of the Treaty depends on the broadest possible participation, making universalization a shared priority for all States Parties.

Upholding the principles and obligations of the Treaty is as relevant today as ever, at a time of increased geopolitical tensions, rising military spending, and mounting challenges to the multilateral system. In this environment, it is essential that we continue to identify opportunities for cooperation and confidence-building. Transparency in arms transfers remains a key instrument for fostering trust, accountability, and confidence among States. We therefore encourage all States Parties to fulfil their reporting obligations under the Treaty. Norway remains firmly committed to providing the highest possible degree of transparency regarding our exports and imports of conventional arms.

President,

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the Voluntary Trust Fund. Over the past decade, the Fund has played a vital role in supporting national implementation efforts and helping States Parties translate Treaty commitments into concrete action. At the same time, contributions to the Fund have declined in recent years. Norway has been a steadfast supporter of the VTF and continues to contribute to its important work. We encourage all States in a position to do so to renew their support and help ensure the Fund's sustainability in the years ahead.

President,

In closing, let us remain guided by the humanitarian purpose at the heart of this Treaty and by our shared responsibility to those affected by armed violence.

You can count on the full support of the Norwegian delegation, and we look forward to a constructive and productive conference.