Final UN Conference on the ATT

New York, 18 March 2013

Mr. President,

36. Ethiopia

37. Finland

I am speaking on behalf of the following countries:

	1.	Albania	38. Gabon	76. Papua New Guinea
	2.	Angola	39. Gambia	77. Peru
	3.	Antigua and Barbuda	40. Germany	78. Poland
	4.	Argentina	41. Ghana	79. Portugal
	5.	Austria	42. Greece	80. Romania
	6.	Australia	43. Grenada	81. Rwanda
	7.	The Bahamas	44. Guatemala	82. Saint Lucia
	8.	Bangladesh	45. Guinea	83. Saint Kitts and Nevis
	9.	Barbados	46. Guinea Bissau	84. Saint Vincent and the
	10.	Belize	47. Guyana	Grenadines
	11.	Belgium	48. Haiti	85. Samoa
	12.	Benin	49. Honduras	86. Sao Tome et Principe
	13.	Bulgaria	50. Hungary	87. Senegal
	14.	Burkina Faso	51. Iceland	88. Serbia
	15.	Burundi	52. Ireland	89 Sierra Leone
i	16.	Cameroon	53. Italy	90 Slovakia
	17.	Cape Verde	54. Jamaica	91. Slovenia
_	18.	Central African Republic	55. Japan	92. South Africa
	19.	Chad	56. Kenya	93. South Sudan
	20.	Chile	57. Latvia	94. Spain
3	21.	Colombia	58. Liberia	95. Suriname
	22.	Comoros	59. Liechtenstein	96. Swaziland
	23.	Congo	60. Lithuania	97. Switzerland
	24.	Costa Rica	61. Luxembourg	98. Sweden
	25.	Cote d'Ivoire	62. Ghana	99. Togo
	26.	Croatia	63. Madagascar	100. Trinidad and
	27.	Cyprus	64. Malawi	Tobago
	28.	Czech Republic	65. Mali	101. Turkey
	29.	Democratic Republic of	66. Malta	102. Uganda
		Congo	67. Mexico	103. United Kingdom
	30.	Denmark	68. Montenegro	104. Uruguay
	31.	Djibouti	69. Mozambique	105. Vanuatu
		Dominica	70. Namibia	106. Zambia
	33.	El Salvador	71. The Netherlands	
	34.	Equatorial Guinea	72. Niger	
		Estonia	73. Nigeria	
		Patricula	74 31	

74. Norway

75. Palau

MEXICO

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Mr. President,

We speak on behalf of countries from different regions that share a common goal. We have worked for a long time to adopt a legally binding instrument establishing the highest possible common international standards for the international transfer of conventional arms.

We are here today to finalize the work that we were unable to conclude last July, in order to reach this common goal.

We recognize that the unregulated trade of conventional arms and their diversion to the illicit market are contributory factors to armed conflict, the displacement of people, transnational organized crime and terrorism, thereby undermining peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable social and economic development.

The overwhelming majority of Member States agree with us on the necessity and the urgency of adopting a strong Arms Trade Treaty. Our voice must be heard.

We continue from where we left off in July, committed to strengthening the text that is the basis of our work.

This text needs considerable improvement in order to reach our objective. The text cannot be ambiguous: we are adopting a treaty that requires clear legal language. We also need to address the existing loopholes that remain in the text. The text needs to better reflect existing international legal norms, standards and principles. The scope of the Treaty -including ammunition-, the prevention of diversion, the criteria for assessment, and the implementation, are some of the areas that need to be strengthened.

A weak ATT could serve to legitimize the irresponsible and illegal arms trade. This is an outcome we must avoid.

We are determined to adopt an Arms Trade Treaty that would bring about a safer world for the sake of all humanity.

As was the case last July, we are ready to make every effort to achieve an Arms Trade Treaty that makes a real difference to the people of the world.

Thank you.