



EUROPEAN UNION
DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement on behalf of the European Union

by

Ms Annalisa Giannella

**Director for Non-Proliferation and Disarmament
European External Action Service**

at the

Preparatory Committee for the Arms Trade Treaty

on

Final provisions of the Arms Trade Treaty

United Nations

New York

13 July 2011

- CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY -

Mr Chairman,

1. I am speaking on behalf of the European Union.
2. The European Union would like to present some brief comments on the final provisions of the Treaty as proposed in your draft paper.
3. We consider that your proposal faithfully reflects the main final provisions that are required in legally binding international instruments. The 2012 Conference will certainly discuss this issue in due detail. At this stage, we would like to offer a couple of comments.
4. While the EU considers that we should strive to have a universal Arms Trade Treaty, we believe we should facilitate its swift entry into force. To this end, the threshold of ratifications required for the entry into force of the Treaty should be fixed at a reasonable level.
5. We support in principle your proposal of provisions on the Assembly of States Parties and Review Conferences. We believe that the holding of meetings of States Parties on an annual basis could promote dialogue, and ensure the smooth functioning of the treaty, consultations, and preparatory work in the inter-sessional period between Review Conferences.
6. Review Conferences could be convened every 5 years after the entry into force of the Treaty. Their mandate should be to review the implementation of the Treaty, with a view to ensuring its consistency with its object and purpose, to review the operation and status of the Treaty, to regularly update its possible annexes, and to take decisions as necessary.
7. We believe that the mechanism provided by regular assemblies of States Parties and Review Conferences will play a crucial role in developing a harmonious interpretation and implementation of the Treaty, and promoting therefore the credibility of the ATT.
8. I thank you, Mr Chairman.