

State of Palestine

Permanent Observer Mission to the United Nations
Geneva



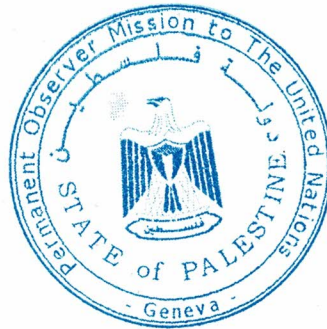
دولة فلسطين

البعثة المراقبة الدائمة لدى الأمم المتحدة
جنيف

Geneva, 06 September 2022

The Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Arms Trade Treaty Secretariat, and in reference to the note published on the ATT website, entitled "Explanation of Position on the State of Palestine", conveying a Statement of Australia, Germany, The Netherlands and Czech Republic. Kindly find attached State of Palestine's response to the said note, and State of Palestine requests it to be published on the website.

The Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Arms Trade Treaty Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.



To : The Arms Trade Treaty Secretariat
Geneva

The State of Palestine regrets the "Explanation of Position on the State of Palestine" issued by Australia, Germany, the Netherlands and Czech Republic, regarding their national positions towards the State of Palestine, and expresses its deep concern towards their continued attempts to politicize the work of the Arms Trade Treaty. The State of Palestine reiterates that such statements contradict the aims and objectives of the Arms Trade Treaty and hamper its effective implementation and universalization. Further, the State of Palestine reiterates that as per the ATT and its bylaws, the participation of the State of Palestine in the ATT conference is not contingent upon the approval of any State Party.

Furthermore, the State of Palestine is particularly concerned by the position of Germany, given their role as the "Chair of the working group on treaty universalization." Such a position brings into question Germany's ability to implement its responsibilities in an effective manner. In this regard, the State of Palestine calls upon States parties to reject this biased behavior and call for its end.

As a State Party to the Arms Trade Treaty and many other international treaties, the State of Palestine will remain an active and engaged member of the international community. The State of Palestine will also exercise its rights as a state party to the Arms Trade Treaty and honor its obligations with respect to all States Parties. Equally, the State of Palestine expects that other States Parties will equally act within the confines of their rights and obligations in the Treaty towards its mandate and other States Parties.