



# REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES



Eleventh Conference of the States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty  
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Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation  
Sub-Working Group on Current and Emerging Implementation Issues

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Mr. Facilitator, Distinguished Delegates, Colleagues,

The Philippines recognizes the importance of addressing the responsibilities of States and the industry within their territories to ensure responsible international arms transfers and mitigate the risks of conventional arms being misused, which may lead to violations of Articles 6 and 7 of the Treaty.

In response to the guiding questions in Annex B-2, we present our national perspectives and practices.

The Philippines adopts a whole-of-government approach and involves several frontline agencies to ensure compliance with arms transfer regulations. These agencies provide guidance on enforcement, as well as check and balance, on ATT-related compliance measures, ensuring that the trade and transfer of arms remain aligned with international humanitarian law (IHL) and the Philippines' human rights obligations.



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In our engagement with industry stakeholders, we maintain two objectives: awareness and strengthened compliance. To enhance industry awareness, the Philippines conducts regular training programs and outreach initiatives on IHL principles and ATT compliance obligations, in collaboration with partners from industry trade associations and civil society. These outreach efforts aim to inform the public about regulatory requirements, which include conducting enhanced due diligence while considering transaction red flags and risk assessment factors, such as human rights and IHL. Furthermore, the Philippine Government offers End-User Business Advice to help local companies fulfill international obligations and reduce the risk of sanctions from other nations.

Furthermore, in compliance with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s Executive Order last year, the Philippine Government has established the Inter-Agency Committee on International Humanitarian Law (IAC-IHL). This national committee is mandated to advise and assist relevant government authorities in implementing, developing, and promoting awareness of IHL. This initiative reaffirms the Philippines' steadfast commitment to human rights and humanitarian principles. In support of these efforts, stakeholders will receive guidance to ensure compliance with international standards, further strengthening the country's dedication to responsible trade and global security.



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The Philippines supports industry self-regulation as a complementary measure to state control mechanisms. Specifically, companies covered by the Strategic Trade Management Act, particularly those issued with Global and General Authorization, are mandatorily required to have an Internal Compliance Program in place based on the elements provided under the STMA. In addition, we encourage the adoption of voluntary codes of conduct among industry actors to reinforce compliance with ATT principles and mitigate risks associated with irresponsible arms transfers.

In closing, we reaffirm the Philippines' commitment to: 1) strengthening industry accountability in the arms trade sector; 2) ensuring that arms transfers do not contribute to human rights abuses or violations of IHL, and; 3) supporting multi-stakeholder engagement to enhance implementation practices under the ATT.

We encourage further discussions and cooperation to advance responsible arms trade governance and enhance ATT implementation practices globally.

Thank you, Mr. Facilitator.