

# ATT CSP4 BRIEF FOR PACIFIC DELEGATES

TOKYO 2018



PREPARED AND PRESENTED BY



# WELCOME TO CSP4



## INTRODUCTION

The Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) entered into force on 24 December 2014. The ATT is a legally-binding global instrument created to ensure transparency and responsibility in the international trade in conventional arms. The Treaty establishes international standards for governments to apply to better regulate the legal arms trade, which will in turn mitigate the illicit trade and diversion of conventional arms. The ATT covers eight categories of conventional arms from battle tanks to small arms and light weapons, including ammunition and parts and components. Currently, the Treaty has a total of 96 States Parties and 130 Signatory States. In the Pacific, four countries have ratified the ATT: Australia, New Zealand, Tuvalu and Samoa; plus four that have signed but not ratified it: Vanuatu, Nauru, Palau and Kiribati.

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In order to review Treaty implementation and discuss issues related to the ATT, Article 17 (1) of the Treaty stipulates that 'a Conference of States Parties (CSP) shall be convened by the provisional Secretariat no later than one year following the entry into force of the Treaty'. The CSP is an annual event, bringing together the nations which have ratified the ATT, signatories to the Treaty, UN agencies, other international bodies and civil society, including NGOs working to reduce armed violence around the world.

The Fourth Conference of States Parties (CSP4) of the ATT will be held in Tokyo from 20 to 24 August 2018. About 500 delegates are expected to attend, including those from nine Pacific governments: Kiribati, Palau, Samoa, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Fiji, Cook Islands, Australia and New Zealand.

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## WHAT BODIES COMPRISE THE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE OF THE ATT?

The **ATT Secretariat** is an independent, Geneva-based institution established under Article 18 to assist States Parties in the implementation of the Treaty. Currently, the ATT Secretariat is focused on the management of the ATT. Its responsibilities include the following:

- facilitate, receive and disseminate national reports from States Parties;
- update and disseminate the list of ATT National Points of Contact (NPCs) to States Parties;
- provide States Parties with assistance to implement the ATT as required, and promote international cooperation;
- organise and provide the resources for annual ATT Conferences of States Parties and other Treaty-related events;
- carry out other duties related to the Conferences of States Parties.

The **Management Committee** was established as a subsidiary body by the First Conference of States Parties – as allowed under Article 17(4) of the ATT to provide oversight on financial matters as well as other matters related to the Secretariat with the aim of ensuring maximum accountability, efficiency and transparency. The current Management Committee serves for up to two years and consists of Cote D'Ivoire, the Czech Republic, Cyprus, Panama, Sweden (year one) and The Netherlands (year two).

### CSP4 LEADERSHIP

The **Presidency of the ATT Conference of States Parties** is a leadership post that rotates each year. The current CSP President is Ambassador Nobushige Takamizawa of Japan, who was elected in 2017 at the Third Conference of States Parties. Argentina, Georgia, France and South Africa have been elected as Vice Presidents to CSP4.

The President of CSP4 is in charge of opening the Conference, conducting the negotiations and effecting the Agenda. He provides a statement recognising the ATT Rules of Procedure, the Secretary for the Meeting, Election of Officers (if need be) and the details of Delegations, as well as providing an overview of the organisation of work within the rolling conference agenda. The Presidency of the Fifth Conference of States Parties will be decided at the conclusion of CSP4.





## WHAT ASSISTANCE MECHANISMS ARE AVAILABLE TO STATES?

### ATT Voluntary Trust fund (VTF)

The VTF is a multi-donor trust fund which supports States to implement the ATT and to meet their obligations under the Treaty. The VTF provides resources to requesting States for a variety of types of assistance, including legal or legislative assistance, institutional capacity-building, and technical and material support. States may partner with non-State organisations to implement the project, such as workshops or trainings. Go to the Activity Database provided by ATT-Assistance to review the activities carried out in Oceania and other regions: [http://www.att-assistance.org/?page\\_id=49](http://www.att-assistance.org/?page_id=49)

Since its establishment, the VTF Selection Committee has issued two calls for project proposals of up to USD 100,000 each in 2017 and 2018. A third 'Call for Project Proposals' is planned for October 2018 and will once again invite States to submit applications through January 2019.

**In the Pacific**, Palau received sponsorship during the VTF's first cycle (2017) with the programme 'Enhancing Palau's arms control system: Ready to meet Arms Trade Treaty obligations'. Palau undertook a national training and workshop followed by a regional workshop for Micronesia, both with CAVR and the DC-based Stimson Center as implementing partners. Samoa received sponsorship in the second cycle (2018) for the programme 'Streamlining Arms Data Collection and Reporting in Samoa' again partnered with CAVR. Samoa is currently working with CAVR to develop a National Arms Transfer Database (NATD) to improve national record-keeping and reporting.

View a short video tour of the NATD, our inexpensive arms management system tailor-made for each individual small and developing state, at: <http://camcopng.com/pvt/>  
User Name: CAVR / Password: NATD (both in upper case)

## CAVR - WHAT WE DO AND WHERE WE WORK

The Centre for Armed Violence Reduction has implemented national and regional armed violence reduction projects with more than 30 governments, including those sponsored in 2017 and 2018 by the VTF, and by UNSCAR in the Pacific. Although the reach of our publications and advice is global, the Centre has focused to date on low-capacity countries in the Pacific, the Caribbean and Southeast Asia. In each case we adapt the implementation of international arms control instruments to suit the local context. CAVR works with a variety of civil society partners to implement training and capacity-building workshops. In the last two years, CAVR has worked with the Stimson Center to organise and conduct workshops in Fiji, the Solomon Islands, Palau and Vanuatu.

For more information on activities organised by CAVR and their geographical scope, see here: <http://www.armedviolencereduction.org/our-work/where-we-work/>

### UNSCAR

The United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR) is a multi-donor, United Nations-managed fund to support the international control of conventional arms and ammunition, particularly focused on the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms (PoA) and the Arms Trade Treaty.

UNSCAR aims to mobilise resources to support the ratification/accession and implementation of relevant international instruments on arms regulation, as well as to improve effectiveness of assistance through coordination, monitoring and matching of resources. It also promotes increased sustainability through more predictable sources of funding.

#### Who is eligible for funding?

Governments wishing to receive assistance should work with an eligible applicant, including civil society organisations. For details, see here: <https://www.un.org/disarmament/unscar/>

CAVR and the Governments of Vanuatu, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands have already received funding from UNSCAR for workshops to discuss the obligations and implementation of the PoA and the ATT. At all these national and regional meetings we partnered with the Pacific Small Arms Action Group, the civil society network for Oceania whose Secretariat is hosted at CAVR.

# BASIC STRUCTURE OF THE CSP4

## WHAT IS ON THE AGENDA?

The Fourth Conference of States Parties (CSP4) to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) will follow a rolling agenda. Once a session has concluded, the President may proceed with the next agenda item. Time indications on the agenda are to be considered as provisional, and delegations are advised to be prepared for adjustments as necessary and as determined by the President.

A detailed description of the agenda can be downloaded here:

<https://www.thearmstradetreaty.org/index.php/en/3rd-conference-of-states-parties-2/2018-05-07-20-06-34/documents>

DAY	START	END
<b>MONDAY, 20 AUGUST</b>		
WELCOME BREAKFAST FOR PACIFIC DELEGATES. HOTEL CHINZANSO	08:00	09:30
1- OPENING SESSION OF CSP4		
2- ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA	10:00	13:00
3- ORGANISATION OF WORK		
4- GENERAL DEBATE		
GENERAL DEBATE (CONTINUED)	15:00	18:00
RECEPTION WILL BE HOSTED BY JAPAN, THE PRESIDING STATE.	18:30	20:00
<b>TUESDAY, 21 AUGUST</b>		
5- TREATY IMPLEMENTATION	10:00	13:00
TREATY IMPLEMENTATION (CONTINUED)	15:00	18:00
<b>WEDNESDAY, 22 AUGUST</b>		
6- TRANSPARENCY AND REPORTING	10:00	13:00
7- TREATY UNIVERSALISATION	15:00	18:00
INFORMAL MEETING WITH CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC DELEGATES. ROOM TSUZUMI 3	18:15	19:30
<b>THURSDAY, 23 AUGUST</b>		
8- INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE	10:00	13:00
9- MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE SECRETARIAT	15:00	18:00
10- MATTERS PERTAINING TO FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS		
<b>FRIDAY, 24 AUGUST</b>		
11. MATTERS PERTAINING TO CSP5	10:00	13:00
12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS		
13. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE FINAL REPORT OF CSP4	15:00	18:00
14. CLOSURE OF CSP4		

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# WORKING GROUPS OF THE CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES (CSP)

**The Second Conference of States Parties (CSP2) established three working groups:**

**The Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation  
The Working Group on Transparency and Reporting  
The Working Group on Treaty Universalization**

- **Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation (WGTI):**

The Working Group on 'Effective Implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty' (WGTI) has the objective of sharing experiences, challenges and best practices on the national implementation of the Treaty's provisions.

**The WGTI at CSP4**

The WGTI will be invited to exchange views on Treaty implementation including aspects related to the establishment of national control systems, interagency cooperation, Treaty prohibitions, export and import assessments, diversion, transit and transshipment and record keeping. The Chair (and Facilitators) of the WGTI will be invited to present to the Conference a report on the work conducted by the Working Group in the intersessional period between CSP3 and CSP4. Amongst other suggestions, the WGTI report will propose Treaty implementation and structures in the period after CSP4.

- **Working Group on Treaty Reporting and Transparency (WGTR)**

The Working Group on Transparency and Reporting (WGTR) undertakes tasks related to the fulfillment of the requirements of Article 13 and the overall theme of transparency.

**The WGTR at CSP4**

During CSP4, the WGTR will discuss first, fulfilment of the reporting obligations in article 13 of the ATT and the broader issue of transparency in the international trade in conventional arms. Second, the Working Group will review the status of reporting, focusing on the 2018 and 2019 annual reporting exercise. Third, it will discuss challenges concerning reporting, for example barriers to submitting timely and accurate initial and annual reports. Finally, it will discuss how to strengthen follow-up mechanisms and information exchange. With regard to the WGTR mandate in the period between CSP4 and CSP5, the Working Group will prepare a proposal for consideration by CSP5, to include as a minimum the standing agenda items and the recurrent tasks outlined above.

- **Working Group on Treaty Universalisation (WGTU)**

The Working Group on Treaty Universalisation (WGTU) aims to increase the level of ATT membership by promoting activities that lead governments to ratification, accession or signature of the Treaty. The Working Group's purpose is to generate and share views and implementation measures on Treaty universalisation and where appropriate, place in context vital lessons from other Treaties and Conventions.

**The WGTU at CSP4**

For CSP4, the WGTU has identified a list of challenges to Treaty universalisation including: the need to raise political awareness towards ratification; building governmental capacity for Treaty implementation; issues pertaining to transparency measures; as well as regional ratification of the Treaty (neighboring states, major exporters and importers, etc.).



# CSP4 THEMATIC DEBATE

**THIS SECTION INCLUDES KEY TOPICS OF DISCUSSION AT THE FOURTH CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES (CSP4) AND SUGGESTIONS FOR PACIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DEBATE.**

This year, CSP4 will focus on Diversion. Article 11 of the Treaty requires that 'Each State Party involved in the transfer of conventional arms covered under Article 2 (1) shall take measures to prevent their diversion'. To comply with States Parties' obligations under the Treaty, CSP4 will cover issues related to the exchange of information on diversion at the operational level. Likewise, the Working Groups will prepare discussions on how States Parties could efficiently and effectively communicate their anti-diversion measures and lessons learnt to other States Parties.

## General Debate – 20 August

During this day, delegations (During this day, delegations (States Parties, Signatory States and other Observer States) will be invited to deliver statements of a general nature. International and regional organisations as well as representatives of civil society and industry will also be welcome to deliver general statements. Statements in this session will be limited to a maximum of four minutes.

## Exchange of Views – 21, 22 August

During this session, the Conference will hold a thematic discussion. The thematic debate will begin with a panel discussion, after which delegates will be invited to participate in the thematic discussion through inputs and comments related to Treaty implementation, transparency, reporting and universalisation.

## Exchange of Views (continued) – 23 August

The Conference will exchange views on international assistance, including requests and offers as presented by States Parties. Afterwards, the President will invite the Chairman of the ATT Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF) Selection Committee to provide a report on the status and operation of the VTF, including an update on its funded implementation projects, proposed amendments to the VTF Terms of Reference as well as any other proposal for improvement of the VTF work in the period after CSP4. Finally, the President will discuss matters pertaining to the Secretariat, and the Management Committee will present its report on financial contributions.

## PACIFIC DELEGATES CONTRIBUTIONS TO CSP4\*

A total of 12 delegates from Kiribati, Palau, Samoa, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, the Cook Islands, New Zealand, Fiji and Australia are likely to be at CSP4. This promises to be the largest-ever Pacific contingent to any ATT meeting. To take advantage of this important opportunity, CAVR and PSAAG encourage all delegates from Oceania to participate actively in the debate and to join efforts to ensure that the priorities for our region are well defined, explained and publicly addressed. In partnership with Australia, CAVR will hold a formal [Pacific Welcome Breakfast](#) on Monday 20 August with all delegates from our region to define the lines of action. We look forward to seeing you there.

\* Take a look at the session 'What is on the Agenda' on page four to check the time and place for the Pacific Welcome Breakfast.

# CAVR TEAM MEMBERS AT CSP4

THIS YEAR IN TOKYO, THE CENTRE FOR ARMED VIOLENCE REDUCTION WILL BE REPRESENTED BY



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The CAVR team is pleased to provide Pacific delegates with assistance at CSP4. Our contact details are as follows:

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We look forward to working with you!

