

UN General Assembly Index 2012

This is an index of all references made to the Arms Trade Treaty during the 67th General Debate of the United Nations General Assembly from 25 September–1 October 2012

Source: Reaching Critical Will <http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/disarmament-fora/unga/2012/index>

[Bulgaria](#)

H.E. Mr. Rosen Plevneliev, President
25 September 2012

“With regard to conventional arms, Bulgaria consistently supports the negotiation process leading to the adoption of a legally binding and robust in substance Arms Trade Treaty.”

[Côte d'Ivoire](#)

H.E. Mr. Daniel Kablan Duncan, Minister of State
26 September 2012

“The Ivory Coast, along with numerous African and non-African states, truly hopes that our Organization can in the near future a legally binding treaty on arms trade following the efforts by all parties to arrive at a consensus. The international community must not miss this historic opportunity to better regulate, if not prohibit, a trade of which the consequences each year lead to the death of some 500.000 people and which is the principal source of a number of key human rights violations, of destabilization of our states, of aggravation and pauperization of populations, and above all, of constant threat to regional and international peace and security.”

[Finland](#)

H.E. Mr. Sauli Niinistö, President
25 September 2012

“Conventional weapons trade clearly needs better global regulation. It is regrettable that the negotiations on Arms Trade Treaty ended without the desired outcome.”

[France](#)

H.E. Mr. François Hollande, President
25 September 2012

“[...] the trade in arms represents another grave danger. France is actively engaged in the conclusion of a universal treaty on the sales of arms.”

[Italy](#)

H.E. Mr. Mario Monti, Prime Minister
26 September 2012

“Italy advocates more effective arms control regimes, and looks forward to concrete nuclear disarmament measures as proposed in President Obama's Prague Appeal.”

[Latvia](#)

H.E. Mr. Andris Bērziņš, President
26 September 2012

Latvia also welcomes the consensus outcome of the Second Review Conference on Small Arms and Light Weapons. And we should redouble our efforts to finding solutions on the Arms Trade Treaty in the nearest future.”

[Lesotho](#)

H.E. Mr. Thomas Motsoahae Thabane, Prime Minister
27 September 2012

“In the same way, for as long as international trade in small arms, light weapons and other conventional weapons, remains unregulated, peace will continue to elude us. The failure of the international community to conclude a robust legally binding Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) less than three months ago has left an indelible mark on our generation. We need to step up efforts during this 67th Session and live up to our responsibilities. Conventional weapons, including small arms and light weapons, are the real weapons of mass destruction in Africa; they fuel conflict and account for scores of deaths of our People every day.”

[Liberia](#)

H.E. Ms. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, President
26 September 2012

“The high-level Diplomatic Conference on International Trade in Conventional Weapons, which ended recently here in New York, sought to develop the highest possible international standards for trade in conventional weapons. However, strong national positions on this sensitive global issue prevented an agreement on a binding Arms Trade Treaty. Yet, nations of good will and nations which have experienced devastation from illicit trading and diversions of conventional weapons must continue strong advocacy, taking into account the full range of differences and disagreements. We would thereby encourage bilateral consensus-building ahead of new rounds of negotiations. At the same time, we are convinced that the final draft Arms Trade Treaty text, though imperfect and inconclusive, contains essential ingredients upon which future negotiations can succeed.”

[Luxembourg](#)

H.R. Henri of Luxembourg, Grand Duke
26 September 2012

“I would not like to fail to mention another priority for Luxembourg in terms of conflict prevention is in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation. Luxembourg promotes the constant search for security at the lowest level of armament. It is a party to all global and regional treaties and conventions in this field. Despite the setback the international community has suffered this year, we remain committed to work towards an Arms Trade Treaty, which would help member states to combat the scourge of uncontrolled arms circulation effectively.”

[Mexico](#)

H.E. Mr. Felipe Calderón Hinojosa, President
26 September 2012

[Unofficial translation]

“Nevertheless, with profound sorrow, Mexico acknowledges that the determination with which we combat criminal organizations has not found a similar response among all nations. For example, we lament that the Diplomatic Conference realized here in July did not achieve an adopted agreement for the Arms Trade Treaty, which would have been the basis for controlling the irresponsible sale of high-powered arms for organized, transnational crime. Therefore, Mexico encourages a Treaty that limits and prohibits

the transfer of conventional arms when there is a risk that they can be used to commit violations of international law.”

[Nepal](#)

H.E. Narayan Kaji Shrestha 'Prakash', Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs
28 September 2012

“We welcome the recent initiative towards conventional arms regulation within the UN and underline the importance of an early conclusion of the Arms Trade Treaty with the highest possible common standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms.”

[Netherlands \(The\)](#)

H.E. Dr Uri Rosenthal, Minister for Foreign Affairs
28 September 2012

“Negotiations on a robust and effective Arms Trade Treaty should recommence as soon as possible.”

[Nigeria](#)

H.E. Mr Goodluck Ebele Jonathon, President
25 September 2012

“One [such] issue deserving the serious attention of the UN is the adoption of a legally binding Arms Trade Treaty. I believe this important instrument could galvanise the international community to regulate the transfer of conventional weapons and curb the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. There is no doubt that the absence of a global consensus to control the flow of such weapons, including small arms and light weapons, is fuelling conflicts, constraining growth and development and increasing human rights violations.”

[Republic of Moldova](#)

H.E. Mr. Nicolae Timofti, President
26 September 2012

“The Republic of Moldova assumed significant objectives and is undertaking tangible steps in accomplishing its priorities in the field of arms control. In cooperation with our partners, the Government of the Republic of Moldova is in the process of adjusting to the best international standards the dual use goods export control legislation, improving SALW management for both civilians and military, ensuring proper border management and actively cooperating on the regional and international level.”

[Saint Kitts and Nevis](#)

H.E. Mr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister
28 September 2012

“We are aware that changing cultural values are influencing the use of weapons by some in our nation, yes. And we understand the importance of focused and effective policing and partnership on matters of security. Related to this we urge the international community to see as an absolute priority the production of a much-needed and long-overdue Arms Trade Treaty. The interests of democratic nations everywhere cry out for the establishment of international standards and controls governing the illicit flow of conventional weapons, and I urge the establishment of a dedicated secretariat to assist State Parties in this regard.”

[Saint Vincent and the Grenadines](#)

H.E. Mr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister
28 September 2012

“Last year’s General Debate – though marked by winds of change and clouds of uncertainty – was not without hope and optimism. Member States anticipated meaningful progress at the Rio+20 Summit on Sustainable Development; we predicted a robust and legally-binding arms trade treaty; we embraced popular homegrown calls for political change; and we scanned the economic horizon for encouraging signs of recovery and growth.”

No relevant comments.

[Slovakia](#)

H.E. Mr. Ivan Gašparovič, President
25 September 2012

“It is crucial to remove the primary causes of conflicts, including through poverty reduction, sustainable development, respect for human rights, the rule of law and respect for its instruments, building of democratic institutions and arms control. They are basic building blocks of peace and prosperity.

"Slovakia is an advocate of a comprehensive, universal and binding Arms Trade Treaty. Our objective is to curb irresponsible dealing in arms and to prevent their transfers to the hands of terrorists, criminals and other illicit groups. I regret that the years--long efforts undertaken by states in cooperation with civil society were not crowned with success at the July conference. I believe that further negotiations will lead to a consensus on an effective agreement."

[Spain](#)

H.E. Mr. Mariano Rajoy, President
25 September 2012

“Spain also supports renewing the mandate of the UN General Assembly in order to proceed with the negotiations of an Arms Trade Treaty. We will continue to work on it so it will become a solid, effective and legally-binding document which reflects the defense of human rights and international humanitarian rights.”

[Vanuatu](#)

H.E. Mr. Meltek Sato Kilman Livtunvanu, Prime Minister
28 September 2012

“Vanuatu, as a Small Island State surrounded by the vast Pacific Ocean, is exposed to notorious and illegal trans-shipment and trade of illicit arms. International arms trade has continuously lacked proper and coherent regulation and is responsible for the lives of an innumerable amount of people in the past. Like many other countries, we call on the United Nations to take a much more rigid approach in expediting the conclusion of an Arms Trade Treaty which would provide greater security and control on such illegal activity. This is an issue, which is of paramount importance to all countries exposed to the illegal Trade of Arms and Light Weapons.”