

Arms Trade Treaty and Biological Weapons Convention

**Hon. Francisco Ashley Acedillo
Representative, Magdalo Party-list
House of Representatives**

Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)

Status:

Philippines signed the treaty during the UN Treaty Event in the morning of 25 September 2013.



Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)

Philippine Position:

- The Philippines supports the thrust of the ATT to address the security, social, economic and humanitarian consequences of the illicit and unregulated trade in conventional arms and their illicit diversion to non-state actors which pose a grave threat to global peace and security.



Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)

Philippine Position:

- Support for the ATT is consistent with the Philippines' leadership role in the Asia-Pacific region as a strong advocate for disarmament, international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)

Philippine Commitment

A. Ratification of the ATT

The DFA thereafter requested on 18 September the Certificates of Concurrence (CoC) from the following agencies:



CoC submitted



CoC submitted



CoC submitted



CoC submitted



awaiting CoC



CoC submitted



awaiting CoC



CoC submitted

As soon as all CoCs are received, the DFA will formally endorse the ATT to the President, for submission to the Senate.

Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)

Philippine Commitment

B. Submission of National Report on Measures to implement the ATT.

The Philippines is not yet required to submit reports and while the template has yet to be agreed upon by the Member States. The deadline for State Parties to submit their initial reports on national implementation is on **31 May 2016**.



Biological Weapons Convention

Status:

The Philippines signed the convention on 10 April 1972.



Biological Weapons Convention

Philippine Position:

- The Philippines is of the position that the challenge for the international community is how to raise the barriers to bioterrorism and to prevent the proliferation of biological weapons in ways that do not hamper the growth and sharing of scientific knowledge and the global spread of beneficial technologies.

Biological Weapons Convention

Philippine Position:

- The Philippines looks forward to the successful and meaningful conclusion of the Meeting of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), which will be held in **Geneva, Switzerland on 14-18 December 2015.**



Biological Weapons Convention

Philippine Position:



- The Philippines will be sending a delegation from the Philippine Mission in Geneva, Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police and the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) of the Dept. of Health.

Biological Weapons Convention

Philippine Commitment

A. Implementing Legislation

As a State Party to BWC, Philippines is required to have the appropriate, cohesive legislation to properly implement the Convention. What we have are a number of different R.A.s and E.O.S that deal with some related issues such as those on chemical controls, ammunitions and explosives, dangerous drugs, etc.

Biological Weapons Convention

Philippine Commitment

A. Implementing Legislation

The major challenge in our legal and institutional framework thus lies in harmonizing, codifying, integrating, updating, and upgrading our numerous existing laws and policies as well as reviewing and strengthening the mandates of concerned government agencies.

Biological Weapons Convention

Philippine Commitment

A. Implementing Legislation

The following are our export control imperatives of which will be needed to properly monitor dual-use goods:

1. An integrated national export controls program.
2. Central database of dual-use items.
3. Training of regulatory, licensing, and law enforcement agencies.
4. Enhanced international and regional cooperation.
5. Industry/private sector outreach programs to raise awareness among businesses of the importance of cooperating in these initiatives as well as to inform them that enhanced security need not curtail legitimate trade.

Backgrounder

- The Philippines is a State Party to the BWC. To date, the Philippines has yet to enact a definitive legislation that would implement the provisions of the Convention, and that would provide for penal measures to enforce such provisions.

Backgrounder

The Biological Weapons Convention Meeting of Experts held on 10-14 August 2015.

The Philippine statement was delivered by the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) which touched on the following topics:

1. Status of domestic legislation/institutional mechanism.
2. Contributions of the UNICRI Center of Excellence (CoE) and other organizations/institutions in building Philippine capacities;

Background

3. “One Health Approach”- the comprehensive approach of the DOH to bio-risk management involving multiple disciplines and government agencies working at the national, regional and international level; and

4. Collaborative research and laboratory confirmation partnership between DOH-RITM and relevant international institutions.

Backgrounder

Meeting of States Parties, 14-18 December 2015 Geneva

The Department of Foreign Affairs has invited the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM), Philippine National Police and Armed Forces of the Philippines to send their representatives to form part of the Philippine delegation.



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