

ZIMBABWE'S SIGNING OF THE ARMS TRADE TREATY



Parliamentarians *for Global Action*
Parlamentarios para la Acción Global
Action Mondiale des Parlementaires
برلمانيون من أجل التحرك العالمي



Joined PGA – May 2013 Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania - Workshop on early signing of Arms Trade Treaty



PGA Tanzania Workshop

29-30 May 2013

- In preparation for the opening for signature of Arms Trade Treaty on 3 June 2013

Wrote to Zimbabwe Government

- On return from Tanzania workshop wrote to the following government departments to ensure that the ATT is signed and ratified:
 - 4 Parliamentary committees
 - 3 Ministers
 - The then Prime Minister of Zimbabwe – Morgan Tsvangirai
 - The Treaty is consistent with Section 10&12 of Zim's Constitution

General Election 2013

The ATT is stalled because of July 2013 Harmonised Election



Joint UN Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) working group of the Pan African Parliament & (PGA) - October 2013, South Africa



PGA Session – South Africa



Joint ATT Session

- Zimbabwe was one of the 22 African states yet to sign treaty at the time

PGA Zimbabwe Pioneer Group



Zimbabwe Signing of ATT

- On 16 September 2014 the PGA National Group-Zimbabwe is formed.
- I was interim chairperson of PGA National Group
- Other members of the diverse interim Committee are Hon. Daniel Mackenzie Ncube, Hon Innocent Gonese, Hon. Willias Madzimore, Hon Priscilla Misihairabwi-Mushonga

Zimbabwe Signing of ATT

- PGA teams up with Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons to push government to sign and ratify ATT.



Zimbabwe Signs of ATT on 18 December 2014 at UN Head Quarters



Arms Trade Treaty Update



- On 9 February 2016 As PGA-Zimbabwe Chapter Chairperson I asked the Minister of Defence in Parliament (National Assembly):
- *“When will he will table a motion for Parliament to approve the ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty which was signed by Zimbabwe in December 2014”*

Arms Trade Treaty Update



- On 9 March 2016 the Minister of Defence Hon. Dr. Sydney Sekeramayi responded:

“...in International law, Zimbabwe belongs to a group of nations that follow a dualistic regime. This means that the procedure of becoming party to International Treaties or Conventions involves two stages, i.e. signing and ratification. As regards the ATT, Zimbabwe has already signed, which is an indication of its intentions.”

Arms Trade Treaty Update



- On 9 March 2016 the Minister of Defence Hon. Dr. Sydney Sekeramayi response cont:

“It is now in the process of stakeholder consultations after which the august house will be informed of the next stage. Part of the delay is due to the fact that we are also seized with the urgent business of realigning our statutes with the Constitution. I thank you”

Way Forward...

- Follow-up question/s in either House
- PGA subcommittee to draw action plan
 1. members to engage Defence portfolio Committee & Thematic Committee
 2. Hold a PGA MP sensitisation workshop
 3. Public awareness campaign
 4. Enlist more MPs to campaign
 5. Meet Minister

