



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

MEDIA ALERT

PGA Congratulates Government of Mozambique on becoming 100th State Party to the Arms Trade Treaty on 14th December, 2018

PGA congratulates the Government of Mozambique on depositing its Instrument of Ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty at United Nations Headquarters in New York earlier today, an important and decisive step forward in promoting national, regional and international peace and security.

PGA also congratulates its Executive Committee Member **Hon. António Niquice, MP** for his crucial role and advocacy, over a three year period, leading to this historic achievement. Hon. António Niquice made a powerful [statement](#) during the [Plenary Session](#) of the Assembly of the Republic of Mozambique [on 23rd May 2018](#), which approved the [2016 Council of Ministers Decision](#) of the Government of Mozambique to proceed to ratification of the ATT, having previously signed the ATT on [3rd June, 2013](#). In so doing, Hon. António Niquice reiterated the importance of this step, confirming the commitment of Mozambique to Peace and Democracy.

“By ratifying the Arms Trade Treaty, although Mozambique is not an armament-producing country, we are positively sending a signal to the World, contributing to the strengthening of global mechanisms for international regulation of the arms trade, peace-building, security, stability, strengthening of human rights at national, regional and international levels. A striking and noteworthy aspect is the fact that the ratification of this treaty was consensual, which demonstrates the will of the Mozambicans to live in peace and contribute to an increasingly peaceful and free world of wars and violations of the most elementary and basic human rights. In accordance with the constitution of the Republic of Mozambique, the ratification and domestication of the norms of international law has the same legal value as the legal acts issued by the Assembly of the Republic.”



PGA Executive Committee Member, Hon. António Niquice, MP

Hon. António Niquice participated in PGA's [37th Annual Forum in El Salvador](#) in 2015 on the Role of Parliamentarians in Promoting Peace and Security - Promoting Universality and Implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty and Biological Weapons Convention. He subsequently arranged for a High Level Delegation from the Government and National Assembly of Mozambique to participate in PGA's [Regional Africa Workshop to Address the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons](#) in Dar-es-Salaam in April 2016. In addition, Hon. António Niquice made an important contribution to the success of [PGA's Lusophone States Workshop to Promote Universality and Implementation of the ATT](#) in Cabo Verde in June 2016. Hon. António Niquice also participated in PGA's [39th Annual Forum](#) in Milan, Italy where the Plan of Action adopted specifically highlighted the importance, *inter alia*, of the Arms Trade Treaty in Preventing Violent Extremism and Mass Atrocities.

PGA is also grateful to PGA Member **Hon. Ana Rita Sithole**, Chairperson of the PGA National Group in the Assembly of the Republic of Mozambique, for her vital advocacy after participation in [PGA's Guinea Bissau Workshop in October 2018](#) which contributed in part to final ratification of the ATT by the Government of Mozambique in December 2018. Hon. Ana Rita Sithole also participated in the [Joint Session on the Arms Trade Treaty](#) organized by the Pan-African Parliament and PGA in South Africa in October 2013.

"This comes about as a direct result of my demarches since PGA's Workshop in Bissau in November 2018. To see this achievement coincide with the 100th deposit at the UN serves to crown the good work and commitment of the Government of Mozambique to be a leading force in the search for a peaceful and rules based society. Our work as legislators will continue so that a full and comprehensive implementation takes place in the near future"



(Chair of PGA National Group in Assembly of The Republic of Mozambique, Dr. Ana Rita Sithole, MP)

The National Group of PGA in the Assembly of the Republic of Mozambique, as a whole, has also been a strong force behind the promotion and advocacy in favor of the Arms Trade Treaty and is also warmly congratulated.

In July 2016, as previously noted, PGA organized its first [Lusophone States Workshop](#) in the National Assembly of Cabo Verde, funded by the United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR), to bring legislators together and promote the Universality and Implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty. That Workshop set in motion and generated commitments from several Legislators. Two months after this Workshop concluded, Cabo Verde ratified the Arms Trade Treaty [in September 2016](#).

During 2017-2018, the leadership efforts of PGA Members of Parliament in [Chile](#), [Suriname](#), [Brazil](#), [Guinea Bissau](#), and now, [Mozambique](#), spearheaded the ATT ratification process and played crucial roles in promoting advancement and eventual passage of the ATT in their respective parliaments. PGA also acknowledges [the contributions](#) made by PGA Membership in [Cameroon](#) which [lead to ratification](#) by Cameroon of the ATT earlier in 2018.

This Ratification places Mozambique as the 100th State Party to the Arms Trade Treaty.

Since 2013, PGA Members have made central, catalytic contributions to the ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty in 45 States worldwide.

<https://www.pgaction.org/campaigns/illicit-salw.html>

For more information about PGA's ATT Campaign, contact:

*Mr. Peter Barcroft, Senior Director
International Peace & Security Programme
peter.barcroft@pgaction.org*

*Mr. Thiago Carvalho, Programme Officer
International Peace & Security Programme
thiago@pgaction.org*