



WINDHOEK PLAN OF ACTION

Deploring the enormous cost in human life and injuries worldwide caused every day by the inadequate regulation of international trade in conventional weapons, in particular small arms and light weapons and related ammunition

Informed, in our actions, by the disproportionate impact of Armed Violence on Women and Children and the lack of engagement with Women and Children in conflict resolution

Recognizing the urgent importance of addressing the illicit trade in conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons and related ammunition, in reducing violent armed conflict and armed violence among other critical efforts

Mindful of the urgent need to take immediate steps to address the scourge

Mindful also, as Members of Parliament, of the important responsibilities we have in always representing and promoting the best interests of our people

Aware of the upcoming Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) Conference, to take place at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 18-28 March, 2013

Determined to ensure that, as Members of Parliament, we discharge our obligations, in legislation, representation, and oversight, to support the adoption of a strong ATT

Determined also to ensure that, in parallel, our national laws are formulated and implemented in greater compliance with the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons

We, therefore, as Members of Parliament from 12 African Nations gathered at the National Assembly of Namibia from 7-8 March, 2013 undertake the following Plan of Action and to promptly:

1. **Reach out** to our respective national Governments and Delegations to the ATT Conference, through meetings, correspondence and other effective means of communication, to advocate for constructive and positive engagement by our Delegations in support of a strong ATT
2. **Highlight** the importance of a strong ATT within our Parliaments and relevant Parliamentary Committees, including by scheduling Hearings and Meetings and introducing Parliamentary Motions, Statements, and/or Questions on the ATT

3. **Reach out** to Media outlets in our countries to discuss the importance of the ATT, promote greater awareness of it among our people and the need for its swift adoption
4. **Discuss and communicate**, by all effective means, with our respective ATT Country Delegations the main provisions of the Draft of the Arms Trade Treaty with a view to ensuring meaningful engagement by our ATT Country Delegations on these vital issues at the upcoming ATT Conference
5. **Highlight** the importance and desirability of an ATT agreed by consensus to our national Governments while at the same time leaving the door open for possible alternative means of adoption of this Treaty, in the event consensus proves to be unattainable
6. **Reach out** to our fellow Members of Parliament in neighbouring countries and the world to draw attention to the Windhoek Plan of Action, the ATT Conference and the imperative need for Members of Parliament around the world to rally around and support the adoption of a strong ATT
7. **Highlight** the critical importance of addressing the gender dimension and including small arms and light weapons and related ammunition in the negotiation of a strong ATT. In particular, urge our national governments to have gender sensitive delegations to the ATT negotiations.
8. **Urge** our respective national governments to push for strong provisions to assist States with adequate resources for the proper implementation of the treaty in the negotiation of a strong ATT
9. **Sensitize** arms producing countries at the ATT negotiations about the impact of arms transfers, in particular the need to monitor trading routes and destinations for such transfers
10. **Review** our respective country's legal and regulatory compliance with the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons and identify possible areas where national law can be formulated or improved in order to bring about greater compliance with the UN Programme of Action by our respective countries
11. **Urge** our respective governments to regularly submit detailed national reports on the implementation of the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the UN Register on Conventional Arms
12. **Advocate** for the prompt signature and ratification of the ATT by our respective governments, once it is established, as well as **Drafting and Introducing** the legislation necessary to give it effect within our countries without undue delay

We agree to inform PGA of the steps we have taken pursuant to this Plan of Action within 3 months from the conclusion of this Workshop

Done in Windhoek, Namibia on March 8, 2013