KAZAKHSTAN

Please, check against delivery

STATEMENT

by

Mr. Barlybay Sadykov,
Director of the Department of Multilateral Cooperation
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan
at the High-level Segment of the United Nations Conference on
Arms Trade Treaty

5 July 2012
New York
Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate Ambassador Moritan of Argentina for his outstanding leadership and work which lays the foundations for negotiating a global Arms Trade Treaty. Under your stewardship, and the tireless efforts of the High Representative on disarmament and her Office, we are confident that the aspirations for such an important treaty will be realized.

Mr. Chairman,

Against the background of national and regional tensions and strife the issues related to conventional weapons proliferation have crucial importance.

During the last decade, the number of military conflicts, in which all types of conventional weapons have been used, has increased dramatically. And so has the number of small arms and light weapons in the hands of criminals and illegal armed groups and militia - all of which inevitably lead to the considerable escalation of crime and terrorism.

It is in this context that we consider it important to take effective collective measures, especially to adopt a treaty within the framework of this presently convened United Nation Conference on Arms Trade Treaty (ATT).

The time has now come for mutual compromise and political commitment to ensure a robust and effective Treaty.

We appreciate the constructive dialogue that has taken place so far on the numerous aspects of the Treaty. Our joint multilateral effort has achieved some common understanding on the basis of which we can take further steps, and rely upon, for our future work.

Kazakhstan is interested in seeing that the outcome of our cooperative multilateral action would be a really strong and effective document with clear goals, objectives and parameters based on the highest international standards.
The Republic of Kazakhstan believes that the International Arms Trade Treaty should be legally binding and set the basic parameters of control over arms trafficking and should provide for collaboration of parties to the Treaty to prevent illegal trafficking of arms.

The scope of the Treaty should cover not only conventional but other types of weapons, such as rifles, pistols and grenades which are most commonly used in committing crimes against the civilian populations.

Kazakhstan believes that the Treaty must provide for the adoption of a monitoring mechanism to assess its implementation, including procedures for marking arms and ammunition. Such mechanism should monitor the transfer of arms in the so-called "gray areas", which are excluded from the regime of conventional arms control, such as in territories where conflict is occurring or has taken place in the recent past.

We believe that the above mentioned proposals, though not fully exhaustive, should be elements to ensure that the final text of the Treaty is functional and effective.

In general, the various contending issues and challenges related to the Treaty must not divide the Member States, but rather enhance and consolidate international efforts to curb the illegal trafficking of weapons.

We intend to work actively further within the framework of the ATT in close collaboration with all the interested Member States, international organizations and civil society in order to make our world safer and more secure.

In conclusion, I wish the Conference participants successful and productive deliberations and outcomes.

Thank you for your attention.