

Human Rights Council – 41st Session

End of Item 3

12 July 2019

Australian Statement

Australia welcomes the acknowledgement in the resolution on the *Impact of arms transfers on human rights* that the diversion of arms and unregulated or illicit arms transfers can have a severely negative impact on women and girls' full enjoyment of all human rights, including increasing the risk of sexual and gender-based violence.

Australia notes the primacy of the Arms Trade Treaty in international efforts to prevent and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms. The Treaty includes an obligation on each State Party to not authorise an export where, among other things, it determines there is an overriding risk of the item being used to commit or facilitate a serious violation of international human rights law or international humanitarian law, as applicable.

Australia encourages all States to join the Arms Trade Treaty. The Treaty will only reach its full potential when all States are Parties.

145 Words