

Range of Voices

[Link below link to blog on LH side of front page] Oct 2006 – Read responses to the UN vote.

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A collection of responses to resolution for an Arms Trade Treaty being passed by the UN.



Ambassador Ochieng Adala, Senior Programme Officer, Africa Peace Forum: "By voting overwhelmingly for the Arms Trade Treaty resolution, the international community has thrown a lifeline to millions of people, particularly those from poor developing countries who have suffered from uncontrolled import, export and transfer of conventional arms. This is just the beginning of a journey towards vigorous and meaningful negotiations that will culminate in a legally binding instrument to bring sanity to the arms trade"

Roselyn Mungai, Peace Building and Conflict Management Programme Officer, Oxfam GB: "Our faith in the commitment of States to people's security and development has been restored. Now we can confidently increase our efforts at curbing community's demand for arms, because we know States are acting on matters of supply."



Joseph Dube, IANSA South Africa:

“The huge support for this resolution illustrates the power of initiatives led by civil society. Now governments must turn this tidal wave of support into an effective Arms Trade Treaty that will save lives.”



Anna MacDonald, Control Arms Manager,

Oxfam GB: "It's a great feeling to witness the first critical step in getting an ATT. It feels like we've been campaigning for so long, but yet actually in UN terms, progress has been very quick, and this is the fastest timescale we could have achieved. It is a real testament to the campaigning and hard work of so many people throughout the world that has got us this far."



Charles Nasibu, an IANSA member from

the Democratic Republic of Congo: "My home country has suffered the devastating consequences of the international arms trade out of control. We have borders in common with nine other countries, so the flood of guns in

DRC destabilizes the entire region. The ATT will benefit not only Congo but Africa as a whole."

Jeremy Hobbs, Director of Oxfam International: "UN arms embargoes are like dams against tidal waves; alone they can't stop weapons flooding in. Only a tough global Arms Trade Treaty will stem the flow of arms to the world's war zones."