



**Arms Trade Treaty Preparatory Committee 13-17 February 2012
Side Event 16 February 2012**

“Gender and United Nations Arms Trade Treaty”

The side event was hosted by the Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network and the IANSA Women’s Network. The purpose was to promote the inclusion of gender language as well as victim assistance provisions within the Arms Trade Treaty.

The film, “The Story of Manipur Women Gun Survivors” was screened and demonstrated how women become the main breadwinners and primary care givers when male relatives are killed by gun violence.

After the film, presentations were made by Binalakshmi Nepram of the Manipur Gun Survivors Network and Control Arms Foundation of India, Jasmin Galace of the Centre for Peace Education, Philippines, Hector Guerra of IANSA Survivor’s Network and Andrew Cooper of the Australian Delegation.

Binalakshmi Nepram spoke about the financial uncertainty women face after the loss of a male family member killed by gun violence. Jasmin Galace discussed how the unregulated trade in arms contributes to armed conflict, violations of international human rights law, international humanitarian law and gender-based violence. She called for a robust and effective ATT with a broad scope and criteria. Hector Guerra stated that most of the people affected by gun violence actually reside in non-conflict areas. He also asserted the need for victim assistance programmes to help survivors, who are often women and mitigate the psychological and financial after-effects of gun violence. Lastly, Andrew Cooper called for the incorporation of gender language in the ATT.