

Establishing the ATT in Australia

Dr Peter Wigg, MAPW Victoria, October 2013

Vision: A world free of the suffering caused by preventable armed conflict.

Motto: Prevention is better than cure.

Overall intentions of MAPW:

- full implementation of international treaties, and domestic Australian laws aimed at the prevention of war,
- all party support for domestic policies that promote health, well-being and the non-military resolution of conflicts

Aims of this MAPW project:

To ensure the effective implementation in Australia of the international Arms Trade Treaty. To fulfil on the spirit of this Treaty, Australia needs to revise its laws, policies and procedures relating to the licensing of arms exports, making these open and accountable, and taking steps to avoid unacceptable humanitarian consequences.

Short term goals: (by April 2014)

- (1) a dialogue with members of the government and other parliamentarians on this issue
- (2) publicity for greater awareness in Australia of the problems of the international trade in arms, the existence of the Australian arms industry and of the Arms Trade Treaty we have yet to ratify and implement
- (3) a dialogue with other organisations running projects with the same aim as ours

Mid-term goals: (by October 2014)

- (1) members of the government and other federal politicians taking steps to achieve ratification and effective implementation of the treaty
- (2) a public campaign underway in support of this
- (3) a group of organisations working together on this campaign, including holding a mini-conferences bringing together participants from the various interested organisations in Australia.

Long-term goal: (by April 2015)

Achievement of the aims of the project.

Each of these goals requires an initial analysis of the problem that needs to be overcome to realise them, the way we might best impact this, the activities needed and the resources available.