Mr Chairman,
Of the resolutions The Netherlands is tabling, I would like to shortly introduce two.

Firstly: our resolution entitled "Addressing the humanitarian and development impact of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons".

In the spirit of First Committee reform, this is a one-time-only resolution, addressing a compelling issue at the right moment. It should be seen as a balanced attempt to destill from the recent major meeting on UN reform those issues which are relevant to the small arms agenda. In our opinion, if the consensus of heads of state and government has developed on issues relevant to our work, it is our duty to take that consensus into account in our work. And, Mr. Chairman, there wasn't that much consensus in arms control.

This resolution takes a broad approach to security and disarmament, like some other 1st Cttee resolutions, as the one on environmental risks, the one on disarmament education, and the resolution on "the relationship between disarmament and development". Such an approach indeed reflects the interconnectedness of issues which our heads of state and government underlined.

Mr. Chairman,
Some delegations have shown concern that this draft could pre-empt the upcoming small arms review conference. We are taking care to address those concerns.

Let me stress that this draft resolution is a text still open to be finalised in the coming week. It is our intention to find consensual support for it. That is why we have held already three open-ended consultations, and two more to go next week.

The very positive response to this process has already led to cross-regional co-sponsorship, including from Africa, Asia and the Americas.

Secondly: our resolution entitled "National legislation on effective national control of the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology".

Mr Chairman, after many cross-regional requests for co-sponsoring in the past years, we are now considering opening it for co-sponsorship.

Effective national control of the transfer of these items is an important tool in enhancing international peace and security. It includes transfers which could contribute to proliferation activities.

The exchange of national legislation, regulations and procedures on export control could serve as a point of reference for States which are in the process of developing or improving such national legislation.
Mr. Chairman,

let me conclude by inviting those member states interested in co-sponsoring this resolution to approach us in the coming days.

Thank you.