Thank You Madam Chair

Madam Chair

The ambassador of Finland, speaking on behalf of the European Union, in his statement last Thursday has underlined that the uncontrolled proliferation and wide misuse of small arms and light weapons is at the heart of the main security challenges of our time.

The Danish delegation fully associates itself with the cluster statement on conventional weapons by the President of the European Union.

My delegation would however particularly like to stress that Denmark believes that armed conflicts are aggravated and prolonged due to the unrestrained transfer of arms, causing insecurity, poverty and human rights violations. Denmark therefore strongly supports the adoption of an international Arms Trade Treaty to establish common standards for the global trade in conventional arms. Such an instrument should be legally binding and include all conventional weapons. Denmark encourages other Member States to support the resolution: an Arms Trade Treaty now under discussion, establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms”, hereby creating a formal mechanism to examine the feasibility, scope and draft parameters for a comprehensive, legally binding instrument.

Thank You Madam chair.