Mr. Chairman,

My delegation is taking the floor to explain its vote after the adoption of draft resolution L.38/Rev.1, entitled “The Arms Trade Treaty”.

Germany fully supports the Statement delivered by the distinguished Representative of Sweden on behalf of the European Union.

Along with our EU-Partners, my delegation has voted in favour of this resolution as an expression of our long-established and unwavering support for the negotiation of a strong and robust, legally-binding Arms Trade Treaty establishing the highest possible common international standards for the transfer of conventional arms and which would make a real difference on the ground.

The resolution adopted today is proof of the increased interest, on the part of the Member States of the United Nations and on the part of public opinion, in negotiating an Arms Trade Treaty. And we hope that this interest – to which the resolution gives expression- will translate into constructive engagement by all UN Member States in the preparatory process and at the Conference to take place in 2012.

Mr. Chairman,

As to operative paragraph 5, we welcome the revision introduced by the sponsors of the resolution. From the outset, we would have preferred to leave this issue to the work on the rules of procedure of the Conference during the preparatory process. But we understand and respect that this issue was important for other delegations.

We are confident that the new formula gives the upcoming negotiations room to find the widest possible agreement on all issues among all interested states. And we firmly believe that this formula, if applied in good faith, will ultimately allow us to arrive at good, workable solutions for a strong and robust treaty.