**First Committee Resolutions: EOVs made by India**

**L38: The Arms Trade Treaty**

India shares the concerns of the international community about the negative effects of the unregulated nature of international arms trade, particularly in view of the dangers posed by diversion of conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons from legal trade into the hands of terrorists, organized crime and other criminal activities.

India participated actively in the two sessions of the Open ended working group on the ATT held in 2009. We note that that the Group acknowledged that respective responsibilities exist for both exporters and importers to address the current situation, based on the principles established in the United Nations Charter, in a non-discriminatory manner. The Open-ended Working Group also recognized the need to address the problems relating to unregulated trade in conventional weapons and their diversion to the illicit market. Considering that such risks can fuel instability, international terrorism, and transnational organized crime, the Group supported that international action should be taken to address the problem.

India is responsible member of the international community and has vital interests as both an importing and exporting country. India believes that future consideration of the ATT in the UN should be part of a step by step process, in an open and transparent manner with no artificial deadlines while recognizing that prospects of an instrument of universal acceptance would be enhanced through a consensus driven decision making process and outcome. It is vitally important that any such instrument should be consistent with the right of self-defence of states and their right to protect their legitimate foreign policy and national security interests.

Calling a UN Conference, as this resolution does, is a major step. We had hoped that the sponsors of this resolution would proceed in an inclusive manner with greater clarity on process and outcomes thus creating the necessary support amongst all members of the UN. The resolution was not able to fill these gaps. It is for this reason that India has abstained on this resolution.