Mr. Chairman,

My delegation takes the floor to explain its vote after the adoption of draft resolution L.38/rev.1, entitled "The arms trade treaty".

Portugal aligns itself with the statement on this resolution delivered earlier by Sweden, on behalf of the European Union. Allow me now to add a few remarks in a national capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

Portugal voted in favour of the resolution as a staunch supporter of a strong, robust, effective and legally binding Arms Trade Treaty.

Nevertheless, we would have preferred to leave to a later stage the consideration of the subject matter addressed in OP5 of the resolution.

From the point of view of Portugal, we would all benefit from more exhaustive consultations and discussions on such issue, providing for a more in depth collective analysis of the best procedural ways and means to achieve a strong and robust legally binding treaty, taking into account all relevant provisions of the UN Charter as well as the legal framework and practice of past UN Conferences, similar to the one to be held in 2012 on the Arms Trade Treaty.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman