Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, allow me to congratulate you and other members of the Bureau on your election and to assure you of the full support and cooperation of Montenegrin delegation throughout this session. I am confident that under your able leadership we will come closer towards achieving our common goals.

Mr. Chairman,

Last year was a good year for disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation. Significant progress was achieved on a number of fronts. In May 2010 NPT Review Conference adopted by consensus a comprehensive Final Document with a balanced Action Plan that builds on steps agreed in 2000 and contains far-reaching concrete measures aimed at making progress towards achieving a vision of a world free of nuclear weapons. Preparatory work started on the Arms Trade Treaty. Convention on Cluster Munition entered into force.

This year saw tangible results as well. New START Agreement entered into force in February by the Russian Federation and the United States. First P5 follow up meeting to the NPT Review Conference was held in Paris, where P5 countries reaffirmed their unconditional support for the NPT as cornerstone of the nuclear non-proliferation regime. Montenegro welcomes all agreements of nuclear powers on mutual reduction in the nuclear capacities and in general supports global nuclear non-proliferation efforts essential for creating safer
world for the existing and future generations and thus objects further expansion in the number of countries that possess nuclear weapons.

Montenegro welcomes progress made so far in the Arms Trade Treaty negotiating process. We will continue to support the ATT process and conclusion of the treaty that will establish common international standards for the transfer of conventional arms and look forward to having a fruitfull Fourth PrepCom in February and ultimately a successful Conference in July 2012. My country is also committed to effective implementation and further strengthening of the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

Montenegro reaffirms its attachment to the universalization and full implementation of the Chemical and Biological Weapons Conventions, Ottawa and Oslo Conventions as well as Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. Each of these mechanisms has an essential role to play in preventing the risks associated with the use of weapons in their respective domains. Particularly, 2011 is an important year for the Biological Weapons Convention. The upcoming 7th Review Conference is a valuable opportunity for States Parties to review and further strengthen the proper application and effective implementation of this instrument, in light of the new challenges we are now facing.

Mr. Chairman,

Montenegro supports swift entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty and its universalization. Civil benefits of the CTBT verification system, including the International Monitoring System, demonstrated in the Fukushima accident, have proven to be of utmost help and should be further explored.

We can not but take note of the legitimate frustrations caused by over the decade and a half long deadlock of the Conference on Disarmament. Montenegro supports efforts aimed at getting CD back to substantive work. For this reason Montenegro was a co-signatory of the letter and joined the initiative for convening of the General Assembly meeting to take up this issue. We truly hope that practical steps will be taken to bridge the differences so that CD can soon adopt a program of work and begin negotiations on the Fissile Material Cut Off Treaty and other important instruments.

Mr. Chairman,

Montenegro is firmly dedicated to play an active role and constructively contribute to the overall efforts in global disarmament and non-proliferation in pursuit of our shared goals, that is ultimately a safer world for all. Montenegrin
delegation looks forward to engaging in issues that are on the agenda of the First Committee and is open for constructive cooperation in all fields. So I would like to assure you, distinguished Mr. Chairman, of our support in bringing this session to a successful conclusion.

Thank you.