Mr Chairman,

At the outset, allow me to state the Greece aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union.

Mr. Chairman, while we follow with great interest developments in the disarmament fora, the past year has been a landmark for the field of conventional disarmament.

**ATT**

The successful culmination of a seven year negotiating process for the adoption of a legally binding Arms Trade Treaty established the necessary criteria which will, inter alia, prevent arms from being transferred irresponsibly and illegally. Once ratified by 50 states and set into force, the ATT will provide a concrete platform for the legal trade in conventional weapons, and will subsequently act as a tool in curtailing the unregulated trade of arms. Greece has supported this effort from the very beginning, and was among the first states to sign the ATT on June 3rd of this year when it was officially opened for signature. We are currently taking the necessary legal steps in order to ratify the treaty. For the Treaty to be implemented effectively it has to receive universal adherence. We would thus encourage states to take the necessary steps towards this effort, as the real strength of the Treaty is based on its universal implementation.
SALW

The adoption of the ATT is the most recent success in the ongoing effort to bolster conventional disarmament. The politically binding UN Programme of Action (PoA) to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in All Its Aspects, is yet another tool in the Conventional Disarmament «armoury». Since 2001, the PoA has steadily taken concrete steps in battling the scourge of the illicit trade of SALW. Greece, has from the outset been a supporter of the PoA, and was encouraged by the Outcome Document of the 2012 Review Conference, as well as Security Council Resolution 2117. Looking ahead, we need to explore existing convergences in order for the BMS5 to become a seized opportunity in view of further improving the implementation of the Programme of Action.

CCW

Greece remains firmly committed to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) and its Protocols and continues to believe that the CCW remains the most appropriate forum for the discussion on a Protocol on Cluster munitions, as it includes both the most significant producers and users, and will thus be in a position to strike a delicate balance between military utility and humanitarian concerns. It is in this same forum that we believe that the topic of Lethal Autonomous Robotics (LARs) should be discussed considering that the CCW is in a unique position to gather the competent diplomatic, legal and military expertise to address this emerging issue.
OTTAWA Convention

As a member state to the Ottawa Convention, we attach great importance to fulfilling our obligations in accordance with the respective Articles 4 and 5. In this regard Greece completed its Article 5 obligations (mine clearance) four years ahead of schedule, while it is sparing no efforts to complete stockpile destruction, despite the challenging financial circumstances. We are looking forward to the annual meeting of States Parties later on this year (2-5 December 2013), and stand ready to participate constructively towards the Third Review Conference scheduled to be held in Maputo in 2014.

Mr. Chairman,

While we are, once again, encouraged by the deliberations of the First Committee, and the progress that has been achieved in the last year, we remain strong proponents of a pragmatic and practical approach in our efforts to narrow the gaps in our search for common ground on Disarmament related issues.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.