PERU

INTERVENCION DEL REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DEL PERU,

EMBAJADOR ENRIQUE ROMAN-MOREY

EN LA CONFERENCIA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS SOBRE EL TRATADO DE

COMERCIO DE ARMAS

NUEVA YOK, 10 DE JULIO DE 2012

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STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF PERU

TO THE UNITED NATIONS

AMBASSADOR ENRIQUE ROMAN-MOREY

AT THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE ARMS TRADE TREATY

NEW YORK, 10 JULY 2012
Mr. Chairman and friend,

First of all, allow me to congratulate you for your election as President of the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty. Your vast experience and deep knowledge of this process ensure us the confidence that we have the appropriate person to guide our works during the following weeks. We are also pleased to see a Latin American diplomat leading this transcendental process; this situation reflects the commitment of our region to reach a successful result in this Conference. In my capacity as an old colleague of yours in Disarmament issues and having experienced personally the difficulties that they involve, allow me to offer my personal collaboration to you in the performance of the high function that the international community has entrusted you.

Mr. Chairman,

Although those who listen to us today, are convinced of the great utility of the multilateralism for the treatment of this class of subjects, it is a reality that this Organization, the United Nations, is facing a worrisome image crisis, specially when positive results are always expected from the UN. There's no doubt that the credibility of this Organization is being judged. The issues of disarmament and the international security have not been excluded from this crisis.

It has been more than 15 years since the Conference of Disarmament is not able to overpass its inactivity. For more than 13 years the Disarmament Commission, which I had the honor to chair this year, has not been able to agree on recommendations to the General Assembly on disarmament issues. Neither to say of the world's perception about the performance of the UN in other current situations of crisis. It is in this scenario that today the UN, I mean the 193 States represented in this Organization, face a new challenge, to negotiate a legally binding Treaty to regulate the international trade of arms.

We hope that at the end of these four weeks of negotiations we can be able to inform to our people that we could be able to reach an agreement in an issue of high sensitivity and interest for the entire world, to regulate the arms trade in order to prevent their diversion to illicit hands and to stop their use in the perpetration of crimes that are already described as mass destructive. That is our goal, to crown this month of July with the adoption of a robust Treaty. We hope to reach that goal, by the well sake of our peoples and for this Organization.

Mr. Chairman,

After a process which began six years ago, and you know better than anybody the details, we are finally gathered to bring to live to the Treaty that will vinculate our States on the manner in which we must deal the trade of arms, trying to find a way to avoid their diversion to the illicit market and their continuous use to bring suffering and destabilization.
Each State and each region has arrived at this Conference with its own interests and concerns. In the case of Peru, particularly, it is clear that the inclusion of the small arms and light weapons and the ammunition in the scope of the Treaty is one of the central subjects of this negotiation. Starting off of the simple idea that a firearm without its respective ammunition is only one tool of daily use like a hammer, the important subject of the production of ammunition in great amounts and the regulation of its commerce shall be consider part of this international instrument. We have enough reasons to demand the inclusion of these subjects in our debate and negotiation.

Being part of a region where figures are calculated between 45 and 80 million of firearms and where it is registered more than 40% of the homicides that are committed with firearms, with firearms that are not produced in the region, it turns out unavoidable to us to approach to this situation in a multilateral way, whereas the responsibility of a safe trade must be shared between importers and exporters. We say in our region “It takes two to Tango”

Mr. Chairman,

The positions of each State have been widely developed during the years that we have been preparing this Conference and I am not going to repeat my national position already expressed during this process. My delegation just wants to call upon all the delegations to negotiate with a constructive spirit and the flexibility that a negotiation like this demands, and that we are called today to face.

We consider that the moment from which the international community agrees itself in regulating the international trade of the arms has arrived. To this point of human development, arms cannot continue being commercialized without regulations. The present situation does not allow us to avoid its diversion to the illicit market, or to the criminal and terrorist organizations which destabilize our societies. It depends on us, those whom each of our States have been entrusted with the responsibility to negotiate this Treaty, finally to give the world a tool to help to find international peace and security.

My delegation will participate in this Conference, with the openness and flexibility that the occasion requires, but with the firmness to defend its positions in order to reach a multilateral Treaty that establishes a regulatory frame for the international trade of arms. Allow me Mr Chairman and friend, to renew to you my personal support and the one of my Delegation to reach the highest interests that have been entrusted to you.

Thank you very much