Thank you Mr Chairman

May I say at the outset how pleased we are to see you continuing in the Chair and we welcome your paper on implementation as an excellent basis for guiding our work in this area. Ireland also takes this opportunity to align itself with the three statements made by the European Union, with which we fully associate ourselves.

Ireland believes that all aspects of the arms trade should be addressed in the implementation of an ATT including exports, imports, transit and transhipment. We accept that such a scope could impose administrative challenges for many states but we believe that effective control of all of these activities will be essential in order to prevent the diversion of arms and munitions for illicit purposes.

Reporting will be a key element of an effective ATT regime and we support the adoption of as high a level of transparency as is feasible and consistent with administrative realities and issues of confidentiality.

Mr Chairman

We believe that brokering needs to be addressed in this text but we are not sure that it belongs in the enforcement section and probably should not be linked to corruption. We would prefer to decouple the concept of brokering from corruption and to move the language on brokering to the first section of the Implementation chapter.

We believe that an effective and focused ISU is an essential element in both the implementation and application of an ATT and in facilitating consultations between states parties including where appropriate the exchange of information on a bilateral basis. We agree with others who have spoken that without a standing support unit the ATT is likely to suffer from a similar lack of effectiveness as other regimes such as UNROCA.

In common with other delegations we have some concerns about the clarity of some of the language in the present draft, for example with the use of the word ‘guarantee’ in paras 8, 11 and 14 and with the word ‘predictable’ in para 5. However we feel that these and other issues can be addressed in detailed discussions later in the process. For now we feel that we can continue to make progress on the basis of this draft and we look forward to integrating the concepts of this paper with the concepts already elaborated in your previous papers on principles, scope and criteria.

A number of delegations have raised questions on the issue of transfer denials and we share many of the reservations expressed on the value of this provision.

Thank you Mr Chairman