Mr Chairman,

Thank you for the hard work in circulating the papers throughout the PrepComms. These papers have served their purpose well and facilitated discussions on possible elements that could go into an ATT. However, these will require closer attention in the eventual text-based negotiation.

1. Singapore continues to support the work of the UN towards establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms through an ATT. As the discussions so far have demonstrated, there is a diverse range of views on various aspects of an ATT. Singapore believes that it is important that the views of all States be heard and taken into account. And, any eventual ATT that is negotiated should be on the basis of consensus, in order to enjoy strong and universal support.

2. We have reviewed the Chairman’s paper circulated yesterday. We would like to provide our preliminary views to this revised paper:

3. **First**, under the “Preamble” section, we propose aligning Paragraph 3 to follow the language in the sixteenth preambular paragraph of UNGA Resolution 64/48, thereby removing mention of “to prevent the destabilising effects of excessive and uncontrolled conventional arms stockpiles”. As previously expressed by other States, it is unclear whether an ATT is the right instrument to effectively address these issues, which are also important but separate.

4. **Second**, under the “Scope” section of the Chairman’s paper, we note that there are currently no definitions for the items covered in Paragraph 1, Items (a) to (i). To avoid ambiguity and misinterpretation, we propose the use of internationally-accepted definitions from the UN Register of Conventional Arms and the UN Programme of Actions on Small Arms and Light Weapons, to which the definitions could refer.

5. **Third**, Singapore believes that an ATT should seek to address the
threat posed to international peace and security by the illicit trade in conventional arms. To address this threat effectively, it is important that an ATT is focused. In this regard, it is unclear how subjective criteria, such as those included in Paragraph B under the “Criteria” section of the Chairman’s paper, can be successfully implemented in an ATT. Like other States, we believe there are other more appropriate international instruments that can effectively address these issues.

6. **Fourth**, the Chairman’s paper has proposed a broad range of activities and measures under the sub-sections of “Notification Systems”, as well as “Record Keeping, Reporting and Transparency”. We should be mindful that not all States possess the capacity to implement the full range of controls envisaged here. Many States, particularly smaller States, are already challenged to fulfil their existing treaty obligations. We are also of the view that an ATT should be simple and targeted in its approach, in order for the eventual treaty to be practically effective and universal in its application.

7. While an ATT can propose standards and criteria that States should use to assess the granting of export licenses, as we have noted in other aspects of an ATT, States should be able to decide for themselves how to implement their own national export control systems. In this regard, Singapore believes that an ATT should not undermine the primary responsibility of national authorities in controlling exports, imports and transfers of conventional arms.

Singapore will continue to contribute to the on-going discussions at the PrepComm, and we look forward to an ATT that is well-balanced, non-discriminatory and universally accepted.

Thank you Mr Chairman.

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