STATEMENT
By Viet Nam’s delegation
To the Fourth Session of the Preparatory Committee
Of the United Nations Conference on Arms Trade Treaty
14 February 2012

Mr. President,

As this is the first time the Vietnamese delegation makes statement in this meeting, let me express our appreciation to you for steering our work so far in the run-up to the upcoming Conference in July. We believe that under your leadership, we would have the best possible preparation for that crucial Conference.

Mr. President,

We are in the final session of the Preparatory Committee. On this occasion, let me reiterate our commitment to our work this week as well as the success of our July Conference.

With regards to that Conference, Resolution 64/48 stipulates that it “must be undertaken in an open and transparent manner, on the basis of consensus, to achieve a strong and robust treaty.” The principle of consensus therefore should be observed faithfully in the course of the July Conference. Consensus is an important factor that we need to observe in the process towards the ATT because it will help us in the implementation of the Treaty when it is adopted.

That principle also necessitates that our deliberation and discussion on the ATT take into due account the views of parties concerned. We therefore support the initiative of making a report of the viewpoints expressed during the four sessions of the PrepCom over the last two years. Given the current divergence of views among delegations, that would be helpful in identifying common elements to build up the consensus for the outcome in July.

Mr. President,

Much remains to be done to get us well-prepared for the July Conference. In order for delegations, especially those from developing countries, to have enough time for international consultations, it is better to have documents distributed well in advance to the Conference, especially the draft treaty.

In conclusion, we would like to reaffirm that we will work constructively for the success of the July Diplomatic Conference.

Thank you.