Thank you,
Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of the Czech Republic is delighted to see you again chairing this meeting and wishes you all the success in your endeavors. Since we fully align ourselves with the statement by the EU delivered the day before yesterday, we would limit our intervention to the absolute minimum we deem appropriate to pinpoint.

My delegation, which co-sponsored the GA resolution 64/48, would like to add its voice to those who have already expressed their conviction that we should not overburden the process towards an ATT by a complicated set of rules but rather stick to the principle of consensus which shall be applied to the final package at the very last stage of negotiations of the text of a new treaty. It is our understanding that the reference to the “basis of consensus” only implies the adoption of the final text of a new treaty. Such an approach has been widely applied in the past, it represents a well established UN practice and, what is of utmost importance, it did work. At the same time, it provides enough flexibility and capacity to absorb many, sometimes even controversial views and standpoints. In the end, perhaps nobody will be 100% happy with a final outcome, it is however the art of multilateralism which serves the purpose, which materialize the willingness of international community to bring about a desired change, which is here to reflect the spirit of original intentions of 64/48.

Let me express, Mr. Chairman, our strong believe that under your able guidance, we will make it happen!

Thank you!