Statement of delegation of Poland to the fifth session of PrepCom for the United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty

Mr. Chairman,

Since this is for the first time Poland takes the floor during this PrepCom session let me Mr. Chairman, at the outset of my intervention, join others in commending your exemplary chairmanship demonstrated thus far. Let me also assure you of Poland’s continues support to your efforts aimed at achieving progress in the ATT process.

Mr. Chairman,

Poland associates itself with the statement delivered by the European Union earlier this session. Additionally, we would like to briefly touch upon two issues, which we deem of specific importance, in a national capacity.

Firstly, we wish to express our support to your proposals of rules of procedures of the Conference, in particular the ones pertaining to the decision taking. We believe that they reflect very well the intentions of General Assembly expressed in the operative paragraph 5 of the General Assembly resolution 64/48. The rules offer a pragmatic and effective procedural framework within which to streamline and progressively develop the conference’ works. They indeed encourage to work in the spirit of co-operation and mutual respect for the divergence of views so at the end the diplomatic conference all delegations are closely linked with its outcome.

Mr. Chairman, let me also address the issue of the attendance of non-governmental organization, specifically rule 65 d) of provisional rules of procedure.

Given the role of civil society in supporting the ATT process throughout the years we believe that it would be justified to offer representatives of accredited non-governmental organization more opportunities to address the conference than one only. I believe that despite even that limited time envisaged for the treaty conference we still should be able to accommodate additional sessions during which representatives of civil society could address the conference. Mr. Chairman, we would like to ask you kindly to consider amending this particular provision by changing words „one meeting” with a word „meetings”.

Thank you Mr. Chairman