EU Statement on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems  
at the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties  
to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons  
Geneva, 13 November 2014

Mr President,

I am speaking on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

We welcome the informal discussions held from 13 to 16 May 2014, which allowed us to have four days of substantive discussion on the issue of emerging technologies in the area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons systems (LAWs).

We would like to thank France for leading this productive meeting. It has provided an important opportunity to exchange preliminary views and explore fundamental technical, legal, ethical and societal, operational and military aspects in this area and helped to lay the ground for a better common understanding of the issue. Important questions, though, still remain.

We would therefore like to offer our support for the renewal of the mandate of another informal Meeting of Experts in 2015 in the framework of the CCW, in order to continue the debate and further enhance our common understandings.

Thank you