UNITED KINGDOM

STATEMENT

to the

CCW Meeting of Experts

on

Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems

Geneva, 16th May 2014

Please check against delivery
Mr Chairman,

Thank you for your excellent chairing of these discussions. Thank you also to the many colleagues who have made such interesting and thought-provoking interventions over the past days.

In the view of this delegation the discussions have been useful and constructive. Clearly the subject of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems is a complex and multi-faceted one. It has been very helpful for us all to have deepened our understanding over these days.

The discussions have also underlined to us that for the subject of LAWS a conventional weapons forum is highly appropriate. As such, we remain of the view that the CCW is the right place for these discussions. We suggest that the Meeting of High Contracting Parties later this year consider the value of the informal expert-level discussions we have had this week, and whether we should continue those discussions next year.

Thank you.