STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF BRAZIL

Fifth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (BMS – 5)

Agenda item 6: Consideration of the implementation of the Programme of Action in all its aspects at the national, regional and global levels, including stockpile management, including physical security measures of small arms and light weapons

New York, 16 June 2014

Mr. Chair,

I congratulate you for your election and thank you for the preparatory work that you have conducted. Allow me to extend our appreciation to members of the Bureau and to pledge the support of my delegation.

Brazil attaches great importance to the prevention, combat, and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects. In this sense, we are fully committed to the Program of Action and the International Tracing Instrument.

Mr. Chair,

The main purpose of the Biennial Meeting of States, particularly under this agenda item, should be to assess the implementation of the Program of Action at the national, regional and global levels. As much as my delegation recognizes the relevance of further discussing stockpile management and physical security measures, specially in conflict and post-conflict situations, the emphasis given to these aspects should not distract us from undertaking an overall assessment of the implementation of the Program of Action, identifying the current status, the gaps and the measures needed to address them.

Brazil stresses the importance, in this context, to further work on the “state of implementation” paragraph, which we believe should be the heading of all sections of the outcome document.

We consider that national reports are useful tools and that better use should be made of them. The factual summary of national reports presented by the Secretariat could help us move forward in discussing the “state of implementation”.
Mr. Chair,

The Program of Action refers, in its paragraph 17, to standards and procedures, established by States, relating to the management and security of stocks of small arms and light weapons. While agreeing that the exchange of lessons learned and good practices in these matters could be beneficial, Brazil believes that benchmarks and indicators should be nationally defined if considered relevant and appropriate by each State.

Lastly, my delegation believes that further discussion is needed regarding the issue of “technological advances” and “sophisticated technologies” related to stockpile management, to the fight against diversion and to the tracking of diverted weapons. It is important that, when addressing issues of new technological developments, proper consideration is given to the provision of assistance and cooperation.

We stand ready to provide additional comments during the course of the discussions, as well as in the context of informal consultations.

Thank you.