Mr. Chair,

We are glad to support the recommendations of the Working Group, especially that the work of the Sub-working Group on Article 11 by one additional year to enable it to focus on the topic of post-delivery cooperation.

Gathering data on seizures of arms and ammunition is an indispensable activity for identifying arms trafficking patterns. It has proved to be an efficient basis of cooperation with exporting countries for perfecting risk assessments, provided for in the ATT.

Data on the identification and tracking of seized firearms and ammunition can also support requests for temporary suspensions of exports, whenever systematic diversion of ammunition legally imported into a jurisdiction is proven in consecutive seizures in a third jurisdiction to which they have been trafficked. This is a typology that has fueled organized crime with transnational ramifications.

The role of the importing jurisdiction that had its arms and ammunition diverted is therefore fundamental.

We propose therefore a proactive initiative by importing jurisdictions that had ammunition diverted. In our view, the best standard is to receive every foreign request for information or tracking as a formal notice that a crime may have been committed within the jurisdiction of the importing economy and then initiate investigations there as well. When cooperating internationally, we have noticed that important parts of transnational criminal groups often remain undisturbed because, even when requests for cooperation are responded, local mirror investigations are not opened to tackle the criminal activities that occurred in the requested jurisdiction within the same case.

We also deem the best standard in international legal cooperation, whenever a diversion is noted in a jurisdiction,
that every other jurisdiction that might be involved be also notified by means of the modern institute of spontaneous information, to be provided for by the jurisdiction where the diversion was first noted, in line with Article 11(4) of the ATT.

Thank you.