Mr. Chairman,

The Brazilian government has been advancing the internal legislative procedures to conclude the approval and ratification process of the Arms Trade Treaty, and hope to become a State Party in the near future.

Brazil already has in place a national export control system which complies, to a large extent, with ATT obligations, and are advancing the process to make it fully compatible with the Treaty.

The universalization of the ATT remains one of the greatest priorities for the international community. The accession of the major arms exporters is paramount to avoid the continuing detrimental effects of unregulated international arms trade to world peace and stability.

Brazil also attaches great importance to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons. By ratifying all CCW Protocols, we have demonstrated our firm commitment to international humanitarian law and the protection of human life and dignity in the context of armed conflicts. We strongly believe that this Convention provides a useful framework to address current and future humanitarian challenges in armed conflicts.
Brazil has never made use of mines in its territory and was one of the main supporters of the Ottawa Convention, which we ratified in 1997. The Brazilian Armed Forces have been engaged in mine action cooperation for the past two decades, particularly in Latin America and Africa.

We also acknowledge the humanitarian challenge posed by improvised explosive devices, especially their use in densely populated areas. We deplore the fact that these devices seem to be increasingly used against civilians. Brazil has been undertaking efforts to prevent the diversion of relevant controlled materials which can be used for IEDs, in particular through national export control legislation.

Brazil also looks forward to the Third Review Conference of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA), to be held in June 2018. We commend the Presidency-designate of the Conference for having held numerous informal consultations since last year and are committed to contributing to its outcome. We particularly hope that the Third Review Conference will be able to tackle the issue of ammunition.

Mr. Chairman,

There is an important connection between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, specifically SDG 16, and the ATT and the PoA. The illicit trade of small arms and light weapons has serious negative impacts on public security across the globe. Domestic efforts must be supplemented with cooperation at regional and international levels. We look forward to deepening these discussions, which were already held in the PoA’s Sixth Biennial Meeting of States and the ATT’s Third Conference of States Parties, in the PoA’s Third Review Conference.

Thank you.