STATEMENT BY
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FIRST COMMITTEE OF THE 73rd SESSION OF THE UNGA 2018
CLUSTER 4: CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS

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Please Check Against Delivery
Thank you Mr. Chairman,

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Indonesian delegation on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Our collective strategy to "prohibit and eliminate nuclear and chemical weapon" should also include the "illicit trade small arms and light weapons".

To this end, my delegation acknowledges and supports the adoption of the United Nations Programme of Action (2001) that has been existing as a global framework agreement which includes identified individuals and groups that are involved in illegal activities, such as manufacturing and through "black markets", importing and transferring small arms to non-state actors, terrorists and civilians.

Therefore, collective measures for "Preventing, Combating, Controlling and Eradicating the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects" are needed to improve and coordination and cooperation at the bilateral, regional, and multilateral level.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation encourages the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament to continue organizing seminars and workshops to create partnership networks to stop the trade and illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons in order to contribute peace, security and stability and sustainable development at the local, national, regional and international levels.
To achieve this, we believe that, it is needed to reinforce regional and national capacity for sharing information and addressing collective border control on the use of illegal arms and ammunitions.

Mr. Chairman,

International law does not admit state and non-state actors who support terrorist activities in holding firearms and small arms. To this, my delegation reaffirms that illegal use of arms and weapons is a violation of crimes against national, regional, and international peace and security.

Timor-Leste has in place domestic legislation, regulating the use of arms which only allows police and military institutions, while, prohibiting civilian ownership and holding of firearms, including prohibition of the use of "melee weapons" or the so called "armas brancas" at national level.

To conclude, my delegation reiterates that all parties work together collectively with collective strategy measure for combating all illegal activities against human life.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.