Remarks by Sweden on transparency and the way forward, at the 2015 CCW Meeting of Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS)

Madame Chairman,

An important question is how to move forward beyond this discussion. Sweden is open to different ways forward, hoping that one can be found that can enjoy consensus. From this week’s discussions on LAWS, it appears that few if any delegations seem to actually advocate the use of fully autonomous weapons. The exchanges especially on the question of Meaningful Human Control point to a need to explore this concept further.

As a step forward, at this stage, we believe that developing information-sharing measures among interested states is a useful way to go. We have listened carefully to suggestions on this from the expert panel and to comments from States and believe that it would be worthwhile developing some of the measures proposed, such as establishing points of contact and exchanging information on procedures and best practices on weapons reviews. Sweden would be happy to work with other interested Parties to move forward on this and other measures to increase transparency in view of the 2015 Meeting of States Parties of the CCW.

Thank you Madame Chairman.