Thank you Mr Chairperson,

On behalf of my organisation PAX, which is a member of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, I would like to take the opportunity to express my gratitude to you for guiding our debates and providing us with the opportunity to express our views.

We appreciate the initiative taken by those states putting forward concrete options regarding Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS). It demonstrates that there is a understanding by the majority of states that there is a need for, and commitment to developing a concrete outcome to deal with the challenges posed by these weapons.

However this does not mean, we can continue talking about these policy options indefinitely.

Technology continues to develop at a rapid pace and it is crucial that the international community draws clear boundaries and sets a high standard as soon as possible.

For PAX only a legally binding instrument would adequately address all the legal, ethical and security concerns related to LAWS.

There is an urgent need for an international norm, that is a legal obligation, enshrined and embedded in national laws, which ensures meaningful human control over the critical functions of weapon systems.

Therefore we call on you to decide in November to start and conclude negotiations on such a norm in 2019.

This is not only possible. It is urgently needed to protect humanity from these weapons.

Thank you.