Mr. President,

Croatia is fully aware of the fact that there are numbers of pressing issues on the CCW's table. It has nevertheless long been our position that all conventional weapons, that are capable of causing excessive injuries or have the potential to be indiscriminate, should be of direct concern to the CCW.

We are therefore grateful to the High Contracting Parties for keeping the issue of Protocol III and incendiary weapons on the agenda, primarily because of humanitarian concerns. And as we can see from the HRW's latest report on Syria, where incendiary weapons have been used against concentrations of civilians ever since the beginning of the armed conflict, these concerns are very well founded.

In closing, we recognize gradual and modest progress made so far and would like to repeat our firm belief that this forum has both the capacity and the means to prevent any irresponsible and indiscriminate use of incendiary weapons in the future by addressing obvious loopholes in Protocol III.

Thank you.