H. E. The President,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The problem of proliferation of small arms and light weapons has continued to plague the Great Lakes Region and Horn of Africa owing to the porosity of borders. The Government of Kenya has made deliberate efforts to prevent and combat illicit trade in SALW at the cross border level. The UNPOA acknowledges the threats posed to development and security at individual, local, regional and national level thus the need to harmonize among neighboring states for desired results.

Upon ratification of the Nairobi Protocol collective efforts have been undertaken to prevent and combat illicit cross border trade both at national and regional level. However, experience has shown that better results are realized through harmonization of processes on security, development, advocacy and dialogue among other undertakings.

On security, Kenya Government notes the competing issues of transnational crimes; drug trafficking, terrorism, piracy, arms trade and human-trafficking. As such, border security has incorporated various agencies with different responsibilities. An integrated approach involving immigration, revenue and law enforcement agencies on border control
The agencies operationalise policies and legislation for effective monitoring. This discourages the employment of illegal immigrants, ensured proper documentation for trade, licensing and commerce practices among other practices hinged on good governance.

On civilian and internal controls, Kenya has boosted physical surveillance by law enforcement agencies. Creation of police border posts in areas neighbouring areas marked for illicit trade especially along the Karamoja cluster (Kenya Uganda and Sudan) borders and the Somali cluster (Kenya, Somali, Ethiopia). The major constrain however has been affordability of technology hence the promotion of community policing where the communities strengthen government efforts to boost their security and prevent illicit cross border trade on SALW.

Mechanisms for cross border resource utilization agreements has been put in place to define rules of engagement breach of which results to punishment. This is a traditional mechanism that addresses issues of alternative livelihood since search for resources is one of the pretexts which illicit trade occurs along the border corridors.

On state owned firearms, the government has continued to implement the Best Practice Guidelines on Arms marking and tracing for traceability. This is in line with the Nairobi Protocol where all RECSA member states are mandated to mark their arms in a specific unique way to its country. To this extent, traceability of SALW from a neighboring country enhances accountability of the member state since origin; source and institution of the firearm can be traced. Kenya alongside other countries has embarked on this process. So far more than 20,000 state owned firearms have been marked by Kenya Police. The armed force is in the process of marking since they have already been supplied with the machine. The same exercise is undertaken harmoniously with other neighbouring countries. Other options are still being explored to address illicit trade of ammunition.
Kenya has continued to collect and destroy the illicit SALW by burning in a five time successive Period of destruction resulting to a total of 25,179 assorted illicit SALW destroyed by burning. The exercise has been used as an advocacy tool thus addressing the illicit trade.

The Government of Kenya in collaboration with other African Security Chiefs have embarked on unified response to deal with challenges posed by piracy, terrorism and counter terrorism. This is in recognition that piracy pose international economic impact along the coastal region affecting African states.

The government of Kenya through relevant ministries and partners has sought to explore development as an avenue for intervention. Construction of roads, health facilities, schools and income generating activities have been avenues through which the communities have been dividends that have provoked communities to surrender their arms and partner with law enforcement agencies on community policing.

Security agencies in collaboration with other actors have sustained cross-border peace meetings through community based conflict management systems, continued capacity building and formation of cross border peace committees. Political leaders have also been engaged in these processes to support community based voluntary disarmament programs, sensitization and awareness creation of the adverse effects of small arms. Joint disarmament exercises have also been carried out at various levels.

Through the Eastern Africa Police Chief Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO), relevant government agencies have deliberated on cross border issues thus attempted to put in place strategies for control. Under the inter-ministerial committee of the EAC where Kenya is a member, member states have jointly finalized the Conflict Prevention Management and Resolution (CPMR) framework as well as regional Policy on SALW which clearly addresses illicit cross border trade. It is envisaged that upon the ratification and domestication
of the peace and security framework in EAC and IGAD, stringent laws will be in place to address the menace.

Noteworthy, through the existing regional bodies: EAC, IGAD, RECSA information sharing through multi-sectoral approach has informed complementary process in project design and implementation.

In conclusion, Kenya has continued to strengthen security surveillance along the border by increasing number of security personnel at the border post and beefing up security through physical patrols. As a result serious incidence by use of SALW has reduced drastically to a negligible level. There is therefore need to sustain dominance physical presents of security personnel along the borders and environs in order to build public confidence to the Government.

MR. F.T. KIMEMIA, CBS
PERMANENT SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF STATE FOR PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION
AND INTERNAL SECURITY