UN PoA
Statement by Norway on follow-up

Norway has expressed support to an intersessional a programme of work leading up to the next Review Conference in six years. We also believe that such a programme of work should encompass both BMS and MGE. Indeed, last year's MGE has set a standard on how member states can address a topical issue in a very constructive way.

At the same time such meetings should not be seen as end in themselves. We need to fill the programme of work with substantial content. Evidently the programme of work has to build on the norms set by the PoA, but at the same time we could make use of such a follow-up process to deliberate on possible improvements of the PoA, so we are better prepared at the next Review Conference. As stated by New Zealand we should have an open mind when discussing possible topics.

When it comes to topics to be explored in the years ahead, there have already been flagged interesting proposals, such as the one contained by the paper of Japan. Stock-pile management, including destruction, is an area which merits further work. Likewise, we should also at a certain stage look into the implementation of the ITI.

From our perspective, we also believe that we would benefit to take stock on recent technological and scientific developments and how these may affect the PoA. My delegation fully shares the views expressed by Mexico on ammunitions. Likewise, as we flagged in our opening statements other possible topics could be boarder control or end user certificates. When it comes to international cooperation and assistance, we think it should be defined as a cross-cutting issue.

If we are serious about the PoA, we need to be ambitious. My delegation does not see any contraction of moving forward, while at the same time ensuring that the PoA is fully implemented.

Lastly, it goes without saying that we need to involve all relevant partners in the upcoming programme of work. My delegation agrees on involving regional and sub regional institutions. It is also vital to recognize the essential contribution by civil society and allow NGOs to fully participate in the process.