Mr. President,

Brazil underscores the importance of the International Tracing Instrument, which complements the commitments undertaken by States under the Programme of Action to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects. Its adoption represents a clear demonstration of how the political commitments contained in the UN-PoA may be further developed upon and strengthened in order to ensure their full implementation.

Mr. President,

Brazil implements a strict arms control legislation, which establishes a clear distinction between weapons that can be kept and used exclusively by the Armed Forces or by security and law enforcement agencies (“restricted use” weapons), and those weapons that may be purchased and kept and used by civilians, upon strict requirements for authorization by competent Government agencies (“permitted use” weapons). This distinction is based on the caliber of the weapons.

National legislation established two distinct but complementary systems for the purpose of record-keeping. One system is managed by the Brazilian Army and covers restricted use weapons. The other system, managed by the Federal Police, keeps records for permitted weapons as well as information on all licenses granted to civilians, on the basis of strict requirements. Both systems are electronic and the records are kept indefinitely, and they enable Brazilian authorities to respond to tracing requests in a timely and reliable manner.

Mr. President,

Brazil is going beyond the scope of the marking requirements established by the ITI. Since 2003, all ammunition manufactured for restricted use weapons is also marked individually with a lot number imprinted at the base of each cartridge, which greatly facilitates their traceability. Furthermore, marking is done in a manner that reduces the possibilities of its alteration or removal. This measure contributes to proper management and security of stockpiles, and is an important deterrent against diversion.

Mr. President,

As regards proposals to update the ITI in order to account for recent technological developments, we are of the view that any discussions in this regard must be based on a precise and consensual mandate, and that they should scrupulously avoid any the imposition of
restrictions on the transfer and exchange of technologies, in particular those that have widespread civilian applications and that are crucial for economic development.

Thank you, Mr. President.