To: High Contracting Parties of the Convention on
Certain Conventional Weapons

Excellency,

In light of the postponement of the June GGE LAWS meetings to 21-25 September, while maintaining dates of 10-14 August session unchanged, and with reference to my Non-Paper of 2 March 2020 on which two dozen comments were received from the High Contracting Parties by end of March as well as based on my bilateral consultations with interested delegations, I would like to propose the following:

• Maintain the general approach suggested in the 2 March 2020 Non-paper in relation to the preparations of the GGE LAWS work in 2020;

• Consider the draft Agenda for 2020 GGE LAWS (attached) that attempts to reconcile the different reactions to the initial draft;

• Consider the draft of the indicative Program of Work for 2020 GGE LAWS (attached) that takes into account the comments received on the initial draft;

• Extend the deadline for submission of commentaries on the operationalization of the guiding principles at the national level. Delegations are kindly requested to limit their submissions to no longer than four single-spaced pages (or 2,150 words) and to submit their national commentaries to the Secretariat of the Group (ccw@un.org) by 1 August 2020. These submissions will be included in a compilation which will be issued prior to the commencement of the first session of the Group in August. The main objective of the exercise is for each High Contracting Party to elaborate on its understanding and interpretation of the guiding principles.
I would be grateful if you could assist me in identifying relevant subject matter experts who could be invited to the August meeting to introduce each of substantive topics of the agenda.

I remain at your disposal for any further clarifications you may wish to receive.

Janis Karklins
Chair of the 2020 GGE LAWS
Ambassador of Latvia to UNOG