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Excellency,

I have the honour of writing to you in my capacity as Chair of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG), established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 76/233, to elaborate a set of political commitments as a new global framework that will address existing gaps in through-life ammunition management.

I wish to again express my gratitude to all delegations for their hard work, constructive support and active engagement at the third substantive session of the OEWG which took place from 13 to 17 February 2023 in New York. Thanks to delegations' flexibility and dedication, considerable progress was made towards convergence on a robust and effective Global Framework on through-life conventional ammunition management.

During our third substantive session, delegations achieved important compromises in many areas and narrowed gaps on various substantive matters, both during intense plenary debates and discussions facilitated by the Vice Chairperson, but more importantly in bilateral and self-facilitated group consultations. I hope we can take this spirit of ownership, compromise, good will and collaboration with us to the fourth substantive session to be held from 5 to 9 June 2023 in New York.

Since agreement has yet to be achieved on the draft substantive outcome document, I intend to make effective use of the intersessional period to work with delegations in narrowing the remaining gaps towards the consensus we all are seeking to achieve. In order to overcome divergent views on outstanding issues, I will conduct bilateral and small group consultations with delegations that have expressed particular interest in topics that require further attention to achieve compromises.

Building on the very substantial gains we have been able to make during the third substantive session, I also reiterate my call to delegations to continue exchanges with other delegations holding differing views and to share with me, through the Secretariat (conventionalarms-unoda@un.org), proposals that can bring us closer to consensus.

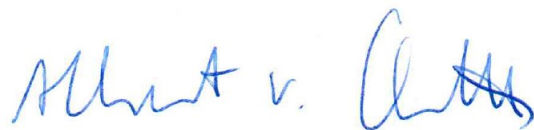
Based on my consultations in the intersessional period, as well as those written proposals received that can bring us closer to consensus, and taking into account your contributions and statements during the third substantive session, we will present you with a next revised draft substantive outcome document as CRP.1/Rev.2 probably by mid-May. This will provide delegations with enough time to review the document and to prepare for the fourth substantive session. Following the circulation of CRP.1/Rev.2 and in advance of the fourth substantive session, delegations can expect that virtual informal consultations will take place to exchange on the revised draft substantive outcome document. The schedule will be communicated closer to that date.

During this intersessional period, I continue to be available to receive bilateral consultation requests. If you would like a bilateral meeting, please contact the Secretariat at (conventionalarms-unoda@un.org).

In pursuit of our common objective, I and my team, together with your support and engagement, remain committed to realize at the fourth substantive session in June a successful outcome of this OEWG that all Member States can commit to.

I look forward to continuing working with you and to seeing you in June in New York to conclude our work.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Albrecht von Wittke
Chair
Open-Ended Working Group on
Conventional Ammunition

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