Twenty-seventh Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have **Indiscriminate Effects**

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Working paper

Submitted by Brazil *

Mr. President,

I wish to start by congratulating you, Ambassador Carlos Foradori, and Argentina on your

We commend all efforts to improve the status and operation of the Amended Protocol II, as well as to promote its universalization. The Protocol establishes obligations that are relevant, in particular, for those who have not yet joined the Ottawa Convention.

Brazil maintains a solid and permanent capacity for humanitarian disposal of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) through continuous training and maintenance of equipment.

On many occasions, we shared our expertise with affected countries in Africa and Latin America, and we are keen to do so within the scope and mechanisms of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) and other fora. Indeed, since 1996, the Brazilian Armed Forces have included Amended Protocol II obligations in their military courses. Moreover, Brazilian military personnel have been actively deployed in cooperation activities for disposal of IEDs in Latin America, including in a program developed by the Organization of American States.

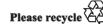
We acknowledge the humanitarian challenge posed by this type of weapons, especially their use in densely populated areas.

Brazil has worked to prevent the diversion of relevant controlled materials related to IED assembling, mainly through national legislation and regional cooperation with neighboring countries. The adoption of a set of national guidelines and best practices in dealing with IEDs should pave the way for future cooperation in this subject with other interested partners.

My delegation believes that further measures regarding IEDs under the CCW should focus on enhancing existing cooperation among States Parties. We have much to learn from each other and much work to do to address the challenges posed by IEDs.

Thank you, Mr. President.





^{*} The present document is being issued without formal editing.