



Statement of the Arab Republic of Egypt
80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
First Committee
Thematic Debate – Cluster 4: Conventional Weapons

Check Against Delivery

Mr. Chairperson,

- 1- Egypt aligns itself with the statements of the Arab and the African Groups, as well as the Non-Aligned Movement.
- 2- Egypt attaches special importance to the discussions on this cluster within our first committee proceedings, due to two factors:
 - First: Stems from the fact that the menace of the expansion of the illicit flow of small arms and light weapons has become, over the past years, of a multi-faceted nature in the Middle East Region and Africa, due to the involvement of States, from outside the region, in arming terrorists and militias as a tool for imposing their foreign agendas.
 - Second: relates to the recent developments in the production and use of conventional weapons, where factors as human control, accountability and applicability of International law, are being subject to waves and efforts of undermining.
- 3- In this regard, allow me to highlight the following 4 points that reflect Egypt's position in this context:
 - First: There is a need to preserve the sovereign right of States to acquire, manufacture, and export, conventional arms, and ammunition for their self-defense and security needs, in line with the UN charter, and to as well ensure that supply of Small arms and light weapons is limited only to governments or to entities duly authorized by them.



- Second: The centrality of the United Nations Program of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the International Tracing Instrument, and the need to continue working on implementing the recommendations of the consensual final document of the 4th RC.

- Third: The added value of the Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management as a voluntary instrument for strengthening and promoting existing initiatives. We once again underline the necessity of preserving the separate and distinct nature of the POA from other related instruments including the global framework, and we welcome in this regard the successful convening of the preparatory meeting of the State parties to the framework, in NY in June 2025.

- Fourth and last: The need to address the use of Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems through all related aspects, and from the prism of the two tier approach, while stressing the centrality of human responsibility and oversight, in conformity with international law.
We welcome in this regard the efforts by Austria in presenting their annual resolution on laws, and we follow attentively, the proceedings of the GGE on LAWS within CCW, under the able chairmanship of the kingdom of the Netherlands and look forward to its expected outcome, that should, in our view, pave the way for the creation of a new inclusive multifaceted process to further deliberate on this important issue under the auspices of the UN.

I Thank you.