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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.

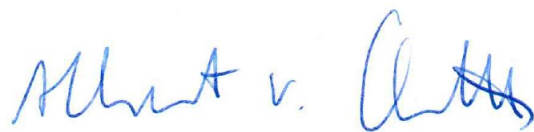
I thank every delegation for the active participation at our last virtual informal consultation. In follow-up to our exchanges, I am pleased to share with delegations enclosed as requested a draft decision in view of adoption under the current Agenda item 99 (bb) “General and complete disarmament: problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus” of the 77th session of the UNGA, mandating the convening of the OEWG for an additional session of 5 days in New York in 2023 to complete its work.

The adoption of this decision may trigger a programme budget implication. The cost estimate provided by the Secretariat for an additional substantive session of the OEWG for 5 days in New York amounts to 157,400 USD. As it has been the case for the three substantive sessions mandated by UNGA Res. 76/233, Germany intends to cover the costs related to the services of the technical consultant for a possible 4th session, reducing the indicative costs by 18,800 USD to 138,600 USD.

The draft in op 3 also contains a suggested new title for the agenda sub-item under which the 78th session of the UNGA should discuss the outcome document of the OEWG. This new formulation is a neutral reflection of the mandate of the OEWG as contained in UNGA Res. 76/233, op 17, and would more appropriately reflect the range of issues discussed in the OEWG so far.

To exchange on the enclosed draft decision, I would like to invite delegations to an **informal consultation which will be held on Friday, 7 October 2022, from 09.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. (New York time)**. The consultation will be held virtually and a technical note and a link to the meeting are being circulated with this letter.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Albrecht v. Wittke', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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

All Permanent Missions
to the United Nations
New York