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STATEMENT

BY

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GHANA'S INTERVENTION ON "COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK TO SUPPORT SAFE, SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE THROUGH-LIFE AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT AT THE NATIONAL, SUBREGIONAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL LEVELS"

AT THE

FIRST SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF THE OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON CONVENTIONAL AMMUNITION

27th March 2022 Conference Room 2, United Nations, <u>New York</u>

Mr. Chair

Thank you for giving me the floor.

2. Ghana wishes to thank the Chair of the Group of Governmental Experts GGE established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/55, Mr. Marcus Bleinroth, for his briefing and convey our congratulations to him for his excellent leadership in guiding the GGE to an outcome that largely reflected the views of all regional groups. Ghana was privileged to be part of the group that worked with Mr. Bleinroth and can attest to the fact that his posture of welcoming diverse opinions on a subject matter is worth mentioning.

Mr. Chair,

3. My delegation, is once again thankful for the opportunity to present our inputs on previous agenda items and wish to make the following comments with regards to agenda item 5E on the "Comprehensive Framework to Support Safe, Secure and Sustainable Through-Life Ammunition Management at the National, Subregional, Regional and Global Levels".

4. Ghana supports the adoption of a set of general global political commitments by States for the safe, secure, and sustainable through-life ammunition management. We recommend that apart from addressing issues of safety and security, these set of political commitments, should also provide for international cooperation and other mechanisms in terms of coordination, reporting, record keeping, information sharing, marking and tracing, implementation as well as mechanisms for meetings and reviews to take stock of the implementation of the commitments made by States.

5. My delegation is also in support of the call for a regional legally binding instruments based on regional priorities and pursuant to the global commitments for safe, secure and sustainable through-life ammunition management. Regional groupings may either adopt a new instrument or review existing regional instruments to address the gaps in safe, secure and sustainable through-life ammunition management.

6. At the National Level, States should, subject to the States administrative procedures, commit to adopt legislative or administrative frameworks for the safe, secure and sustainable through-life ammunition management. State could compliment this legislative or administrative frameworks with national policies, guidelines, standard operating procedures and other relevant modes for the safe, secure and sustainable through-life ammunition management for specific institutions within the State.

7. States at the National level may also wish to establish a comprehensive coordination mechanism to ensure that the obligations they adopt are effectively coordinated and complied with by various institutions within the States.

Mr. Chair,

8. At the heart of the implementation of any commitments at the global, regional and national level is the issue of capacity of States. It is well known that most states especially developing states do not have the adequate capacity for the safe, secure and sustainable through-life ammunition management. For that reason, My delegation wishes to call for the establishment of a mechanism

to enable states willing to do so to provide support in capacity building to developing states in areas of training of personnel, adoption of legislative frameworks, development of standards and guidelines, construction of modern storage facilities, provision of modern equipment and the destruction of obsolete ammunition as determined by the State.

9. In conclusion, Ghana would welcome a regional consultation process for states within a specific regional bloc to discuss specific regional priorities areas for consideration and we stand ready to work with you on this, Mr. Chair.

I thank you.