



Albrecht von Wittke

Head of Division

Conventional Disarmament and
CSBM, Preventive Arms Control

ADDRESS

Werderscher Markt 1
10117 Berlin, Germany

MAILING ADDRESS

11013 Berlin, Germany

TEL + 49 (0)30 1817-0

chair-oewg-ammunition@diplo.de

www.auswaertiges-amt.de

26 January 2023

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.

Draft substantive outcome document

In preparation of the third substantive session of the OEWG scheduled to take place from 13 to 17 February 2023 in New York, I am pleased to circulate, attached to this letter, the **draft substantive outcome document** issued as Conference Room Paper A/CONF.239/2023/CRP.1. This document will also be uploaded in a PDF format onto the documents section of the UNODA Meetings OEWG Website (<https://meetings.unoda.org/meeting/62086>). CRP.1 contains a draft set of political commitments as a new Global Framework for through-life conventional ammunition management and is based on the constructive and enriching deliberations held during the intersessional period, taking into account the oral and written inputs received from delegations on the zero draft circulated on 3 November 2022. I encourage all delegations to review the attached draft substantive outcome document, as it will form the basis for our work during the third substantive session.

I would like to invite you to a round of **informal virtual consultations which will be held on Tuesday, 31 January 2023, 9.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. (New York time) and on Wednesday, 1 February 2023, 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. (New York time)**. The objective of both consultations is to provide explanations by the Chair on the draft substantive outcome document ahead of the third substantive session. Delegations are not expected to participate in both consultations nor to provide any feedback or inputs to the draft at this stage. The convening of two informal consultations on different days will hopefully facilitate broad participation of delegations who will cover the third substantive session to ensure the best possible preparation. Additional **informal virtual consultations will be held on Wednesday, 8 February 2023, 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 a.m. (New York time)** to provide delegations an opportunity to informally give a first feedback on the draft substantive outcome document before the third substantive session. The participation of capital experts in all those consultations, made possible through the virtual format, is very much encouraged. A technical note and a link to the meetings are circulated alongside this letter.

Organizational matters

The third substantive session of the open-ended working group will be held from 13 to 17 February 2023 in Conference Room 1 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. Please note that the Secretariat circulated a **logistical note** for this session ([A/CONF.239/2023/INF/1](#)). All open, formal meetings will be webcasted via UN TV.

I would like to inform delegations that the **provisional programme of work** of the third substantive session has been issued in all official languages of the UN under document symbol [A/CONF.239/2023/1](#).

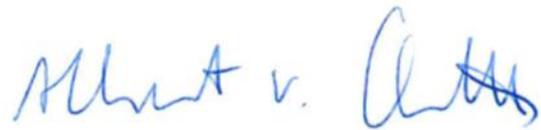
In accordance with our rules of procedure, a dedicated informal meeting is scheduled in the morning of Tuesday 14 February for statements by international and regional organizations, followed by non-governmental organizations and civil society. This segment will be held in a hybrid format, providing the opportunity for organizations to deliver their statements remotely and in-person.

In the lead-up to the upcoming substantive session, I would also like to reiterate my call to Member States to consider **submitting working papers** on thematic issues relating to the work of the OEWG. They can be submitted to the Secretariat at conventionalarms-unoda@un.org.

Bilateral consultations

I will be happy to receive bilateral consultation requests. In this regard, please be informed that I will be available for in-person meetings **in New York from Tuesday, 7 February**, the week prior to the opening of the third substantive session. If you would like a bilateral meeting, please contact the Secretariat at conventionalarms-unoda@un.org.

Looking forward to seeing you in our virtual consultations and then in New York and continuing our substantive deliberations, please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Albrecht v. Wittke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and a distinct 'v.' separator.

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

All Permanent Missions
to the United Nations
New York