23 February 2024, New York

Excellency,

Foremost, I want to thank all delegations for their active engagement and constructive suggestions made during last week’s Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) for the Fourth United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (RevCon4), which was held in New York from 12 to 16 February 2024.

As mentioned during our informal consultations on Thursday, 15 February, I would like to share my indicative roadmap for the intersessional period between the PrepCom and the RevCon4 in June. The plan outlined below is indicative and intends to provide direction and clarity for the work ahead. However, we will need a certain degree of flexibility to be able to articulate our work and some adjustments may be needed as we move forward.

**Draft Elements Paper and Outcome Document**

I intend to work on several iterations to collaboratively transform the outline of elements paper I circulated on 7 February 2024 into a solid draft outcome document that will constitute the basis of our final negotiations during RevCon4. During this iterative process, I will be taking into consideration the views of all Member States offered through informal, group, and bilateral consultations that will take place before the circulation of each draft. I will also circulate the following documents:

- A revised draft elements paper with substantive elements based on views expressed during the PrepCom before the end of March.
- A zero draft outcome document at the end of April.
- A revised version of the zero draft that will be turned into a first draft by mid-May.
- A second draft circulated before the beginning of the RevCon4.

If and as needed, I will appoint States to facilitate certain topics between now and RevCon4 to further inform the drafting of the outcome document.
Consultations

Regional Consultations

As we heard at PrepCom, the regional preparatory meeting in Kathmandu from 23-25 January was useful for both States and my own ability to fulfill my function as President-designate. As such, I intend to participate in the following consultations in the next weeks:

- For West and Central Africa, in Lome, Togo, 29 February-1 March
- For East and Southern Africa, in Nairobi, Kenya, 4-5 March.
- For Latin America, virtually, 11-15 March.
- For the Caribbean, virtually 18-22 March.

In addition to these preparatory meetings, I will organize additional regional group consultations at UNHQ in the coming weeks in advance of the circulation of the Revised Elements Paper. This ensures that I will have the opportunity to hear from all regional groups as we consider the Revised Elements Paper. You should receive an invitation for this meeting shortly.

Informal Consultations

I will hold at least four rounds of virtual informal consultations between April and June. Specific details and agenda items for these informal consultations will be shared in due time, but please save the date for the first two of these virtual consultations on 16 and 18 April, from 13:15 – 14:45. I have selected this timeslot in order to avoid overlap with meetings of the UN Disarmament Commission. For these first two consultations, in additional to listening to Member States views on the Revised Elements Paper, I will invite the Secretariat to offer presentations on two of the topics of interest identified during the PrepCom: integration of SALW control into development and prevention frameworks, and, as mandated by BMS8, options for the establishment of a structured procedure for international cooperation and assistance.

Additional consultations will take place in May and June, specific dates for which will be communicated in good time.

Working Papers and Written Inputs

As I have raised before, I strongly encourage submission of working papers to conventionalarms-unoda@un.org.

Furthermore, I would welcome written inputs sharing your reactions to the presentation by the UN Secretariat on proposals for an open-ended technical working group made on 15 February and available here. You can submit your views to conventionalarms-unoda@un.org by 21 March 2024.
Stakeholder Consultations

In addition to the consultations I will organize with States, I will also organize meetings with international and regional organizations, civil society, industry and the private sector in April and May.

Bureau

I thank all regional groups again for their swift nomination and all delegations for the election of Bureau members.

I aim to hold a Bureau meeting before circulating each of the upcoming drafts, to exchange with Bureau members the progress made with the drafts and to ensure all communication channels remain open.

National Report

I want to call your attention to the note verbale sent by the Secretariat today, 23 February, regarding the opening of the online reporting. I encourage you to submit your national report within the noted timeframe as this will inform the Secretariat’s presentation of the progress in the trends, challenges and opportunities related to the implementation of the PoA and the ITI.

It is my hope that this roadmap and the elements it contains will help us have a transparent and structured way forward to arrive at RevCon4 ready to make critical progress on the implementation of the PoA/ITI.

I look forward to continuing our positive and constructive engagement during this intersessional period.

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

Sincerely,

Maritza Chan Valverde

President-designate of the fourth Review Conference