



Permanent Mission of Italy to
the Conference on Disarmament
Geneva

Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)
Preparatory Committee to the Seventh Review Conference
Main Committee II
8th September 2026

Mr. Chair,

Thank you for giving me the floor. At the outset, we would like to congratulate you on your appointment as Chair of Main Committee II. We would also like to express our appreciation to Ambassador In den Bosch for his stewardship of the work of the Group and congratulate him on the successful outcome achieved last week. Despite the divergences remaining among delegations until this last session, we were pleased to witness a growing political will and readiness to accept compromises that allowed us to narrow final gaps and move forward.

Even though we started this process three years ago with an higher level of ambition, we recognize the importance of the elements we agreed upon. We developed a characterization of lethal autonomous weapons systems which is broad enough to allow for further refinement in the negotiation of a future instrument. We reaffirmed that the rules of international humanitarian law governing the choice of means and methods of warfare fully applies to new weapons technologies, including LAWS. We have recognition of the human element, through the concepts of human judgement and control, which is

exercised directly or indirectly, including through measures taken before and/or during the use of LAWS. We have measures that concretely translate these concepts and that aim at safeguarding human responsibility and accountability.

We continue to believe that the CCW represents the appropriate forum in which to explore the characteristics and implications of lethal autonomous weapons systems. The results achieved last week show that CCW is not only capable of responding to technological change but remains a living and effective instrument through which States can take concrete international action to respond to humanitarian concern.

The Seventh Review Conference will represent a unique opportunity to build on this important foundation and decide on an agreed approach progressing towards effective multilateral governance of LAWS.