Mr. Chairman, dear colleagues,

Allow me to align my statement to the statement of the European Union (EU). I would like to add two points regarding conventional weapons important to my delegation.

Mr. Chairman,

First, I would like to express our satisfaction due to the successful outcome of the "race to first 50" ratifications of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). This race with unprecedented pace that produced more than 50 ratifications in the course of one year, demonstrates clear international support for the first international treaty that regulates international trade with conventional weapons, technology and equipment. We commend all States that ratified the Treaty and thus enabled its entry into force that will take place on 24 December this year. Slovenia is proud for having contributed to that end by depositing its instrument of ratification on 3rd April 2014 with a group of several other states. In this context, I would reiterate Slovenia’s full support to a draft resolution proposed by Argentina, Costa Rica, Finland, Kenya, Mexico and the UK.

Slovenia looks forward to First Conference of States Parties to be held in Mexico in 2015. We are grateful to the government of Mexico that hosted the first preparatory meeting in September and to the government of Germany that will host next preparatory meeting at the end of November in Berlin. Slovenia supports inclusive approach that should enable wide participation of states parties and signatories to the Treaty and civil society, including representatives of industry at the First Conference of States Parties. We hope that at the First Conference of States Parties in Mexico we will adopt relevant decisions that will enable full implementation of the Treaty, including the decision on location of permanent Secretariat.
The next challenge ahead is the race to second 50 ratifications in the course of the next year; together with new parties, we will make a new step forward towards the universalisation of the Treaty. We call upon all states that have not done so to ratify the Treaty as soon as possible or at least to sign the Treaty before it enters into force.

Second, I would like to make a point regarding the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel mines. Slovenia welcomes successful conclusion of the 3rd Review Conference of States Parties that took place in June this year in the capital of Mozambique, Maputo. There we adopted Maputo Declaration, Maputo Action Plan and the Decision Related to the Implementation Machinery. These documents are providing us with guidance for our work until the Fourth Review Conference in 2019. We believe that by then, we shall make further steps towards our final goal, a world free of anti-personnel mines and suffering caused by them.

Slovenia will continue to support this goal by acting through the ITF Enhancing Human Security, which became a well-established regional player in the field of demining and victims assistance in Maputo we heard some positive news, e. g. those from the United States on further measures regarding mine-action, including on prohibition of production of mines. Slovenia fully supports draft resolution on the Convention, contained in the document L.5 proposed by Mozambique, Algeria and Belgium. We call upon all states willing to assist us in reaching our noble goal to support and vote in favour of this resolution.

I thank you.