Mr. Chair,

Brazil underscores the importance of the International Tracing Instrument, which complements the commitments undertaken by States under the Programme of Action to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

Brazil implements a strict arms control policy. A clear distinction is made, according to their caliber, between weapons that can be kept and used exclusively by the Armed Forces or other law and security enforcement agencies – restricted weapons –, and those weapons that may be kept by civilians, upon careful analysis and authorization by the Government – the permitted weapons.

Mr. Chair,

Brazil is going beyond the scope of the marking requirements established by the ITI. Besides all small arms and light weapons, the ammunition designed for restricted use is also marked, which facilitates its traceability. Furthermore, marking is done in a manner that reduces the possibilities of alteration or removal of marking.

Our national legislation established two distinct but complementary systems for the purpose of record-keeping. Both mechanisms keep records for indefinite time. One system is managed by the Brazilian Army and covers restricted weapons. The other system, managed by the Federal Police, keeps records for permitted weapons as well as information on all licenses granted to individuals, upon strict requirements. Tracing requests received by Brazilian authorities can be responded to in a timely manner.

Mr. Chair,

Finally, on the draft outcome document, my delegation recommends caution when tackling specific technological solutions, as it may be premature to endorse or prescribe them before the necessary technical and financial consideration by Member States.

Thank you.