Excellency,

I have the honour of writing to you in my capacity as Chair-Designate 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.

I would like to express my gratitude for the views expressed by delegations during last week’s virtual informal consultations. Based on our discussions, I would like to provide the enclosed proposal on the rules of procedure to govern the work of the OEWG for consideration by delegations. In addition, I have elaborated suggestions on modalities of participation of international and nongovernmental organizations which can also be found enclosed to the present letter. I hope that these proposals will help us in reaching a common understanding on these organizational matters ahead of the organizational session.

As for the switch in location of the 2022 session to Geneva and the 2023 session to New York, I am grateful for delegation’s expressed flexibility. I have taken note of the concerns regarding the potential overlap of several meetings on disarmament issues taking place from 22-26 August and I am working with the Secretariat to find alternative dates for the second substantive session of the OEWG. It is my hope that during the organizational session, the OEWG can express its willingness in principle to agree to this switch should an appropriate date for the second session be found in Geneva.

In order to continue our discussion, I would like to invite delegations to the next virtual informal consultation on Tuesday, 1 February 2022 at 10.00am (New York time) to further exchange views on the organization of work of the Group. A logistical note is enclosed.
Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Albrecht von Wittke
Head of Division,
Conventional Arms Control and CSBM
German Federal Foreign Office

All Permanent Missions
to the United Nations
New York

Enclosures:

- Annex A – Proposal on rules of procedures
- Annex B – Proposal on modalities of participation of international and nongovernmental organizations
- Annex C – Logistical Note for virtual informal consultation on 1 February at 10.00am (New York time)