STATEMENT OF GEORGIA

6th Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons

Geneva, 13-17 December 2021

General Debate

Mr. President,

Let me begin by congratulating you on the appointment as a President of the 6th Review Conference of the CCW and pledging our full cooperation and constructive approach.

Georgia aligns itself with the statements [to be] delivered by the European Union. In addition, I would like to highlight few points in my national capacity.

Mr. President,

Georgia has long-standing commitment to the CCW and its Protocols. The CCW is a unique international forum, which offers a flexible way to respond to new developments in weapons technologies and above all, to support the implementation of an essential part of International Humanitarian Law, which contributes to preventing and reducing the human suffering. We have to ensure that CCW continues to fulfill its mandate and remains responsive to new developments.

We attach high importance to the transparency and confidence building in the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. To this end, let me encourage the High Contracting Parties to complete reports on a regular basis.

Georgia emphasizes the importance of the universalization of Amended Protocol II and V. We remain fully committed to this objective, and in this context my delegation expresses strong support to all efforts in strengthening these important instruments, promoting their universalization, and implementation.

Mr. President,

As I have mentioned before, CCW offers a unique opportunity to address current and future trends in autonomous weapons development. In this regard, Georgia welcomes the work by the Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal
Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS). We consider that it is important that the “GGE continues its efforts based on a solid mandate further to allow for progress”

We would like to express our concern over the increasing global impact of IED (Improvised explosive devices) attacks worldwide. We value the work done on this issue in the CCW vis-à-vis increasing awareness and creating a useful platform for exchange. To this end let me reiterate our strong support for the updated declaration on the issue.

In respect to the current financial difficulties, which raise concern about effective functioning of the convention, we believe that the regular and timely allocation of financial contributions by High Contracting Parties is essential in ensuring the effective execution of the Convention. Here, I would like to welcome President’s initiative and effort to elaborate measures aimed at enhancing the sustainability of financial situation of the Convention.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, we reiterate our constructive approach and remain hopeful that the outcome of the conference will strengthen the Convention and its protocols. You can count on our engagement to this end.

I thank you.