Albrecht von Wittke,
Chair of the UN OEWG on Conventional Ammunition

Input

on the UN GGE, UNGA Resolution on „Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus (PACAS)“ and the UN OEWG
GGE PACAS in general

- mandated by General Assembly resolution 72/55

GGE composition and sessions

- geographically-diverse and gender-balanced
- 18 experts:
  Germany (chair), Argentina, Austria, China, France, Jamaica, Republic of Korea, Montenegro, Singapore, United Kingdom, United States, South Africa, Brazil, Switzerland, Colombia, Egypt, Ghana, Portugal
Comprehensive consideration of

- unplanned explosions at munition sites
  → safety aspect of conventional ammunition management
- diversion of ammunition to unauthorized recipients
  → security aspect

**GGE working papers & Chair papers**

→ see UNODA Meetings Place webpage
  [https://meetings.unoda.org/meeting/gge-ammunition-2020/](https://meetings.unoda.org/meeting/gge-ammunition-2020/)
1) Interpretation of the Group’s mandate

- comprehensive consideration of safety and security risks posed by unplanned explosions and diversion

- ineffective physical security & stockpile management continues to contribute to surplus growth & to safety and security risks (cf. predecessor GGE in 2008)

- Safety and security problems extend beyond national stockpile facilities. Challenges exist throughout the life cycle of the ammunition, from the point of manufacture until disposal or use.
2) operational guidelines on supply-chain security and diversion monitoring

- voluntary guidelines to complement existing standards, guidelines and best practices (incl. IATG)
- focus *beyond* stockpiles to address the *entirety of the ammunition supply chain* from production to use or disposal

3) relationship between conventional ammunition and existing frameworks and processes

- various existing frameworks and processes that could support safe, secure & sustainable ammunition management, e.g.
  - → 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
  - → Secretary-General’s Agenda for Disarmament
- integrate relevant ammunition management programming within sustainable development cooperation frameworks
GGE Recommendations for a comprehensive framework on conventional ammunition (A/76/324)

**Comprehensive Framework**

_to support safe, secure and sustainable through-life ammunition management_ *(para. 82)*

| **Global Level** | **Global Framework** (set of political commitments) *(para. 83)*:  
| - address both safety and security aspects of through-life ammunition management from the point of production until disposal or use *(para. 85)*  
| - supported by implementation mechanism at the global level, _inter alia_ to  
|   - facilitate international cooperation and assistance  
|   - develop voluntary, operational guidelines related to security aspects of the through-life management of ammunition *(para. 88)* |

| **Regional/ sub-regional level** | **Region A** _regional_ legally binding instrument or tailored political commitments on a voluntary basis *(para. 89)*  
| **Region B** _regional_ legally binding instrument or tailored political commitments on a voluntary basis *(para. 89)*  
| **Sub-Region Ω** _sub-regional_ legally binding instrument or tailored political commitments on a voluntary basis *(para. 89)* |

| **National level** | **State 1** National measures  
| **State 2** National measures  
| **State 3** National measures  
| **State 4** National measures  
| **State 5** National measures  
| **State 6** National measures |
The Resolution “Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus” (A/C.1/76/L.47, 1st Committee, 76th UNGA)

- “welcomes” the GGE Report
- encourages States to consider GGE recommendations

17. 

Decides to establish an open-ended working group to elaborate a set of political commitments as a new global framework that will address existing gaps in through-life ammunition management, including international cooperation and assistance, without prejudice to national legal systems addressing national ammunition ownership, possession and use, and will be part of a comprehensive framework to support safe, secure and sustainable through-life ammunition management at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, building upon and complementing existing frameworks, whereas cooperation at the regional and subregional levels should be considered on a voluntary basis;

18. 

Also decides that the open-ended working group shall take into account the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 72/55 and the views of all participating States and be informed by the series of informal consultations convened within the framework of its resolution 72/55 throughout 2018 and 2019, the informal paper presented by Germany on the informal consultative process and the inputs, both written and oral, received from Member States on the same matter;
The Resolution – Mandate for the OEWG

OEWG to elaborate a set of political commitments as a new global framework addressing existing gaps in through-life ammunition management, including international cooperation and assistance

without prejudice to national legal systems addressing national ammunition ownership, possession and use

Together with actions at the national, sub-regional and regional level, these commitments would form a comprehensive framework to support safe, secure, and sustainable through-life ammunition management.
OEWG on conventional ammunition

- Official title
  "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" aka OEWG on conventional ammunition

- 15 working days for the OEWG’s work in 2022 and 2023

- provide the 78. GA with a set of political commitments
2022-2023 OEWG Process on Conv. Ammunition

- **Organizational Session**: 7-8 Feb 2022, N.Y.

- first **substantive session**: 23-27 May 2022, N.Y.

- further virtual informal consultations

- second **substantive session**: 15-19 Aug 2022, Geneva

- further virtual informal consultations

- third **substantive session**: 13-17 Feb 2023, N.Y.