



Permanent Representation  
of the Federal Republic of Germany  
to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva

Adresse: 28c Chemin du Petit-Saconnex, 1209 Genève

**Michael Biontino**

Ambassador, Permanent Representative  
of the Federal Republic of Germany

To all Permanent Representatives and Heads of  
Delegations of CCW States Parties and  
Signatories  
Geneva

Geneva, 17 March 2015

**2016 Meeting of Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems  
Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)**

Excellency, Dear colleague,

The CCW third Informal Meeting of Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) is an opportunity, building on the previous meetings, to deepen the understanding and discussions on these weapons systems further. In preparation for the meeting, please find attached a "Food-for-thought" paper. The paper is neither exhaustive nor exclusive, but meant to help delegations identify possible issues they may wish to address. It follows the structure set out in the programme of work for the expert meeting which you have already received. The paper can also be found on the CCW website and the translations into the six languages of the United Nations will be posted there as soon as they become available.

Previously, I invited delegations to submit written contributions prior to the informal Meeting of Experts. The written contributions are an opportunity for delegations to raise issues they may wish to emphasize at the meeting. For example, delegations are invited to share information on their national policies or simply raise general issues on which they wish to see further clarification. I am counting on written submission to help encourage a substantive and lively exchange in April.

I look forward to interesting and lively discussion during the informal Meeting of Experts.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Michael Biontino