

Originally delivered in Russian

**Statement of the Center for International Security and Policy
at the meeting of the Group of Governmental Experts
on lethal autonomous weapon systems**

29 August, 2018, Geneva

Delivered by Alimzhan Akhmetov, director of the Center for International Security and Policy (Kazakhstan)

Thank you, Mr. Chair, for giving me the floor.

Center for International Security and Policy is Kazakhstany nongovernment Organization that focuses on issues of international security.

We joined the International Campaign to Stop Killer Robots on July 2018.

We are deeply concerned that numbers of states do not support this preventive legally binding instrument on fully lethal autonomous weapon systems (LAWS).

Allow me, Mr. Chair, to draw a parallel between today's discussions and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

We are facing an unequivocal threat that fully lethal autonomous weapon systems will sooner or later become a reality.

One can get the impression, Mr. Chair, that some states deny the necessity of prohibiting LAWS because they want to secure a monopoly in this sphere of armaments.

When we will fully realize the scale of the threat the states will be forced to negotiate and discuss the nonproliferation of these technologies. At that time we will be discussing in this same room, theoretically speaking, NPT-2.

Our predecessors had no chance to preventatively ban nuclear weapons, and we have no right to miss such opportunity now.

Moreover, the development of such weapon systems is contrary to the spirit of Article VI of the NPT, according to which the states undertake to "pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear

arms race... on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control."

There is a cognitive dissonance between our commitment to disarmament and the active investment of individual states in the development of new types of weapons, the consequences of which are unpredictable.

Given the above said, we urge states to overcome existing disagreements and reach a unified decision on the need to develop a legally binding instrument to ban lethal autonomous weapon systems.

Thank you.
