STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GHANA
DELIVERED BY

AT THE

CONVENTION ON CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL
WEAPONS PROTOCOLS II AND V EXPERTS
MEETING

UN HEADQUARTERS, GENEVA

8-12 APRIL, 2013
Mr. Chairman

The Ghana delegation extends its congratulations to you as Chairman of this session. We applaud your active work and we are confident that this session will be successful under your able leadership. Ghana looks forward to working closely with you to realize the mandate of this meeting.

Ghana is represented at this meeting, thanks to the support and encouragement of the membership, especially the three Presidents who have relentlessly sought to urge the Government of Ghana to accede to this laudable Convention and to be part of history. We take this opportunity to assure the Presidents and the secretariat that Ghana has received the most recent letter urging our accession and the utmost is being done, in that regard, to ensure our membership.

Mr. Chairman, our country has taken a keen interest in the objectives of the CCW and its various Protocols especially since it aims to alleviate the suffering caused by explosive remnants of war and to prevent the use of excessively injurious weapons of war. We are also very much interested in this Convention because we sincerely wish to contribute to its multilateral efforts to regulate the activities of non-state actors.

To us in Ghana and in West Africa, the uncontrolled access to conventional weapons and their munitions by non-state actors has unfortunately sustained conflict, exacerbated violence, fueled crime and terrorism, promoted cultures of violence, violated international humanitarian laws and impeded political, economic and social development. This situation has therefore deepened our conviction that the CCW would help to promote peace and development especially in West Africa, in line with Ghana’s Foreign Policy objectives.
Mr. Chairman,

To end my presentation, I would like to inform this meeting that The Ghana National Commission on Small Arms and Light Weapons has been working on a draft Memorandum to our National Cabinet to seek the appropriate mandate to commence the necessary administrative procedures for accession. Presently, series of consultations are being held on the draft Memorandum, with all stakeholders, prior to its submission to the National Cabinet for consideration.

It is our fervent desire that this process should be completed in due course to enable Ghana become a State Party to the CCW and its protocols. We, in this regard, hope that we can continue to count on your invaluable support.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.