STATEMENT

by H.E. Ambassador Yuriy KLYMENKO,
Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva,
Head of the delegation of Ukraine to the Meetings of Experts of Amended Protocol II and Protocol V to the CCW, and Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems
(7 – 17 April 2015, Geneva)

Mr. President,

Since this is the first time I am taking the floor, I would like to start by extending my warmest congratulations to you on the assumption of your duties and wishing you every success in this endeavor. Please be assured of my delegation’s full support and cooperation with you to advance the objectives of the CCW.

Mr. President,

Distinguished delegates,

Ukraine recognizes and highly values the important role played by the Convention in addressing post-conflict remedial measures in order to minimize the occurrence, risk and effects of Explosive Remnants of War (ERW).

Despite current significant challenges in the security field related to the hybrid war waged against my country, Ukraine fully complies with its obligations under the abovementioned document. We take all measures to destroy and dispose of ERW from our territory, appreciating herewith international technical and financial assistance, as well as submit on a regular basis Ukraine’s national annual report on compliance under the CCW and its Protocols.

At the same time, I have to acknowledge that because of the said reason nowadays we have to deal with a drastically increased number of dangerous ERW, causing severe casualties among civilians, including children. Their disposal would be significantly facilitated due to the intensified cooperation with the international community, first of all in the field of sharing modern ERW detection and destruction technologies and providing necessary equipment.

Mr. President,

The delegation of Ukraine looks forward to productive and fruitful discussions, and is ready for joint efforts to achieve a successful outcome. Reaffirming our commitment to the provisions of the Convention and its Protocols, the implementation of which is an integral part of my country’s corresponding national program, I would like to pass the floor to EOD experts from Ukraine, who will deliver relevant national presentations.

Thank you.