

**CCW INFORMAL MEETING OF EXPERTS
ON LETHAL AUTONOMOUS WEAPONS SYSTEMS (LAWS)
13-16 MAY 2014**

13 May 2014

10.00 – 13.00: General debate

Chair: France

Opening of the meeting and address by Mr Møller, Acting Director-General, United Nations Office in Geneva.

This session will allow a first general exchange of views.

15.00 – 18.00: Technical issues (Part 1)

Friend of the Chair: Germany

The main objective is to address the key issues of autonomous technology.

- What are the differences between autonomy and automaticity?
- What are the levels of autonomy and predictability in robotics?

Kickoff presentations:

- **Mr. Raja Chatila**, *Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France: The concept of autonomy*
- **Mr. Paul Scharre**, *Center for a New American Security, United States of America: Existing systems and technologies: is there a trend towards increasing autonomy?*
- **Debate between Professor Ronald Arkin**, *Georgia Institute of Technology, United States of America* and **Professor Noel Sharkey**, *University of Sheffield, United Kingdom: The pros and cons of LAWS*

Interventions

14 May 2014

10.00 – 11.30: Technical issues (Part 2)

Friend of the Chair: Germany

This session will address questions related to the existing systems and the foreseeable next steps in robotics technology.

Kickoff presentations:

- **Mr. Jean-Paul Laumond**, *Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France: Humanoid Robotics*
- **Mr. Hajime Wakuda**, *Director for Defense Industry, Aerospace and Defense Industry Division, Manufacturing Industries Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan: Robotics and applications*

Interventions

11.30 – 13.00: Ethics and sociology
Friend of the Chair: Brazil

The aim of this session is to discuss issues such as:

- How the development of LAWS could impact humans?
- Could robotics be used in conflicts? If so, what ethical questions does it raise?
- Are LAWS socially acceptable?
- What is the relationship between humans and robots?

This discussion could also be informed by the experience of civilian robotics.

Kickoff presentations:

- **Dr Dominique Lambert**, *Université de Namur, Belgium: The ethics of robotics and the human-machine interrelation*
- **Professor Peter Asaro**, *International Committee for Robots Arms Control: Ethical questions raised by military applications of robotics*

Interventions

15.00 – 18.00: Legal aspects (Part 1): International humanitarian law
Friend of the Chair: Mali

This session will aim to address the applicability of international law, including international humanitarian law, to LAWS through the following questions:

- What are the implications for the principle of humanity and the Martens Clause?
- What could be the impact of LAWS on the status of combatants?
- How could the use of LAWS impact on the principles of proportionality, distinction and precaution (*Jus in bello*)?
- Is the development, acquisition and deployment of LAWS compatible with Article 36 of Additional Protocol I 1977?

Kickoff presentations:

- **Dr. Nils Melzer**, *Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Switzerland: Principle of humanity and Martens Clause*
- **Professor Matthew Waxman**, *Columbia Law University, United States of America: Implementation of Art. 36 and jus in bello*
- **Professor Marco Sassoli**, *Geneva Academy, Switzerland: LAWS - advantages and problems compared with other weapon systems from the point of view of international humanitarian law*

Interventions

15 May 2014

10.00 – 13.00: Legal aspects (Part 2): Other areas of international law
Friend of the Chair: Sierra Leone

This session will aim to address the following questions:

- What could be the impact of LAWS on responsibility and accountability for violations of international law?
- What are the implications of LAWS on international human rights law?
- What is the impact of the development of LAWS on the right to use force (*Jus ad bellum*)?

Kickoff presentations:

- **Professor Thilo Maruhn**, *University of Giessen, Germany: Responsibility and accountability*
- **Professor Christof Heyns**, *University of Pretoria, South Africa: Human rights law issues*
- **Dr. Nils Melzer**, *Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Switzerland: Jus ad bellum*

Interventions

15.00 – 18.00: Operational and military aspects
Chair: France

This session will focus on the relevance of LAWS in an operational context.

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of the use of LAWS?
- What are the limitations for military personnel and their impact on the conduct of military operations?
- What is the impact of the development of LAWS on international security and stability, and on military doctrines?

Kickoff presentations:

- **Dr. Mark Hagerott**, *United States Naval Academy, United States of America*
- **Dr. Heigo Sato**, *Takushoku University, Japan: Military implications of LAWS and possible ways to develop a risk management scheme*
- **Lieutenant Colonel Olivier Madiot**, *French Armed Forces: Views of the Joint Staff*
- **Col (Ret.) Wolfgang Richter**, *Germany: Utility and limitations of the use of LAWS in military operations*

Interventions

16 May 2014

10.00 – 13.00: Wrap up session

Chair: France

The wrap up session will begin with the Chair and Friends of the Chair summarizing orally their respective sessions.

Delegations will have an opportunity to make statements.

15.00 – 18.00: Concluding session

Chair: France

The Chair will circulate a preliminary version of the report, which he is required to issue in accordance with his mandate.

Delegations will have an opportunity to make final statements.