

## Costa Rica

*April 11, 2018*

Thank you Mr. Chairperson,

My delegation has paid close attention to the valuable contributions of colleagues this morning to the discussion at hand.

We have heard concepts such as: minimum level of human control, meaningful human control, sufficient human control, and/or appropriate levels of human control to assure compliance with IHL and others. We believe these concepts are purposefully vague and ambiguous.

We have also heard that fully autonomous weapons should not execute critical functions, however interesting this statement may sound, we currently lack a definition that may enlighten us on what these critical functions are.

A “human operator” cannot make death or life “informed decisions” based on the algorithmic analysis provided by a machine, however sophisticated these systems and technologies may be.

Human control must embed a qualitative dimension, in other words, human analysis and decision making cannot be substituted by a machine. We stated during the first day of our discussions, that there are human qualities that cannot be emulated by machines, these human characteristics include: intelligence, ethical conduct, proportionality analysis, moral responsibility and accountability, compassion, empathy, intuition and above all, absolute respect for IHL and IHRL.

In concluding, the Governmental Group of Experts on LAWS must move towards an agreed working definition of LAWS, a not limited, not exclusive, not perfect and ever evolving one. This agreed definition shall include the human element in a multidimensional manner. Moreover, this definition will allow us to develop policy that will help prevent us from designing, developing and deploying systems that may cause harm and/or death to human beings. Being the safeguard of human dignity and integrity the center of our preoccupations.

Muchas gracias!