



Permanent Mission of Israel to the UN
GENEVA

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Statement by

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Deputy Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament

Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention on Certain
Conventional Weapons (CCW)

GGE on LAWS

United Nations, Geneva

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Thank you, Mr. President.

Israel found last week's GGE on LAWS to be insightful, enriching and useful. We feel that the various panels as well as the side-events that took place during the week, have contributed to promote a greater understanding regarding the complexity of the issue of LAWS. Given that complexity, the futuristic nature of these systems and the different opinions relating to it, it is Israel's view that our approach must be careful and incremental.

Israel sees the benefit of the panels' discussions held during the GGE which provided insights into technological, as well as legal and ethical aspects of LAWS and their potential future implications. We note with interest that several references were made to the possible benefits of future LAWS from both humanitarian and military perspectives. We believe that this dimension of the issue could be furthered explored.

Israel sees the merit in further examination of the characteristics of LAWS, the issue of human-machine interaction, and the issue of legal review of weapons. This examination will serve to shed more light on this multifaceted issue without prejudging any possible outcome. In this regard, Israel views the CCW to be the most appropriate forum for the discussion on the issue of LAWS, and hopes that further discussions on this issue will be conducted in a realistic manner while avoiding apocalyptic scenarios.

Israel looks forward to next year's GGE and hopes that, contrary to this past year, our work in 2018 will last for 2 weeks in full accordance with the timeframe agreed upon.

I thank you.