Thank you, Mister Chairman. I'm Allen Youngman, Executive Director of the Defense Small Arms Advisory Council, the only ECOSOC-accredited NGO comprised entirely of manufacturers of military small arms. We are a technical rather than a political organization and our perspective is based on our members' daily involvement in the legitimate global arms trade.

DSAAC has participated in every small arms forum here at the UN since 2006 and actively supported the drafting of the Arms Trade Treaty. In so doing, we acted in response to the oft-stated desire of this body to more closely involve all aspects of civil society, including relevant sectors of industry.

We believe that the relationship with industry has been beneficial, however, we note a disturbing recent development as the ATT moves into the implementation phase. Despite our active support of the ATT drafting process, it appears that the authority to decide whether industry will be allowed to play any further role has now been out-sourced to one of the political NGOs.

The ATT is not self-executing and only a credible, fact-based implementation process will determine whether it achieves its goals or instead joins other well-intentioned but irrelevant documents on a dusty shelf, its high-point having been the press conference following its entry into force.

We believe any decision concerning the future participation of civil society should be taken only by sovereign states. If this body decides that industry involvement is no longer necessary or desirable, that should be stated firmly and unequivocally by this body. However, if future industry participation is desired, that decision should be expressly re-affirmed.

Thank you.

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