

Diplomatic meeting on killer robots to open at the United Nations on Monday Amid growing political leadership, discussions enter a critical phase

Media Advisory - 21 September 2021: The Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) of the Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW) will meet at the United Nations in Geneva, 24 September - 1 October 2021.

- Discussions on autonomous weapon systems are now entering a critical phase, with states due to recommend a new international framework ahead of the 6th Review Conference in December 2021.
- The majority of state parties to the CCW are calling for a legally binding framework to ensure meaningful human control over the use of force. This framework would include both prohibitions and regulations to deal with the moral, ethical, legal and practical dangers posed by autonomy in weapon systems.
- The vision and commitment to a legally binding framework is fuelled by diverse states throughout Latin America, Europe, Africa and Asia, with a minority of states not yet inclined to join the growing call for new international law.
- There is clear and growing political leadership on this issue demonstrated just last week with the Foreign Ministers of Austria and New Zealand calling for action towards new international law at a timely virtual conference hosted by the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- The meeting of the GGE is chaired by Belgian Ambassador Marc Pecsteen, who has circulated a <u>draft text for a potential framework</u> which will be discussed in depth at the upcoming GGE.

The Campaign to Stop Killer Robots calls on states to urgently address the challenges posed by killer robots and launch negotiations of new international law to address autonomy in weapons systems and ensure meaningful human control over the use of force.

The CCW meeting on killer robots will be held in-person in Room XIX and it will also be broadcast live on UN WebTV.

The <u>Campaign to Stop Killer Robots</u> is a coalition of 180 NGOs from 65+ countries. The Campaign will be attending the GGE and the upcoming 6th Review Conference in-person. Spokespeople will be available for comment and/or interview throughout. Please contact:

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