



CAMPAIGN TO STOP KILLER ROBOTS

**Campaign to Stop Killer Robots statement by Mary Wareham, HRW
to the Convention on Conventional Weapons Annual Meeting of States Parties**

Geneva, Switzerland

November 14, 2013

General Exchange of Views

Thank you for allowing me to speak in my capacity as coordinator of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, the international coalition of 44 non-governmental organizations in 22 countries.

Our campaign calls for a pre-emptive and comprehensive ban on the development, production, and use of fully autonomous weapons, also known as lethal autonomous robots. We are concerned about weapons that operate on their own without human supervision.

We would like to reiterate our support for the proposed mandate for the Convention on Conventional Weapons to take up this matter in 2014. We thank you Mr. President and your team for the intense work that you have put into the proposed mandate over the course of this week and over the preceding months. We thank all governments that have spoken on killer robots, including many that have done so for the first time this week.

We view the CCW mandate as the beginning of a process that can lead to the adoption of a sixth protocol to the CCW. At the United Nations in Geneva we often hear the phrase “step-by-step,” but the proposed CCW mandate should be viewed as the first step on to a ladder. We urge you to climb high and support our call for a ban as the most effective way to ensure the protection of civilians.