



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Islamabad, Pakistan

Foreign Secretary

FSO-41/1/2017

06 April 2017

Dear Ms. Wareham,

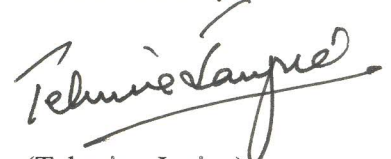
I thank you for your letter dated 21 March 2017 and for the felicitations extended to me on my appointment as the Foreign Secretary of Pakistan. I am also grateful to you for your appreciation of Pakistan's Presidency of the Fifth CCW Review Conference last December. We were indeed able to achieve significant outcomes at the Review Conference with the active engagement of all stakeholders including our partners from the civil society.

Human Rights Watch has been on the forefront of international advocacy efforts pertaining to the humanitarian concerns arising from certain conventional weapons. CCW provides an appropriate platform for addressing these concerns, while seeking to strike a balance with the legitimate military utility and security benefits of such weapons.

The seminal work done on the issue of Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS) by the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, which you coordinate most ably, has been instrumental in raising awareness. It has sensitized the international community to the grave risks posed by LAWS and spurred the CCW States Parties to address the issue in a meaningful manner. I look forward to the substantive consideration of this issue by the open-ended Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) established by the Fifth CCW Review Conference. Pakistan will participate actively and constructively in the work of this GGE while reaffirming its call for banning fully autonomous weapons systems.

Pakistan's delegation in Geneva will continue to interact with you in the CCW framework and beyond to benefit from your valuable insights. I too hope to meet you at the next available opportunity and thank you once again for your thoughtful letter.

Yours Sincerely,


(Tehmina Janjua)

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