STATEMENT BY NIGERIA ON AMENDED PROTOCOL 6 AT THE 4TH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE CONVENTION ON CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS (CCW)

Mr President

Since this is the first time the Nigerian delegation is taking the floor during this 4th Review Conference, allow me to congratulate you on your Presidency and wish you and everyone success in the difficult task of decision making.

Mr President

While a country like mine (Nigeria) has signed up the CCW, we are closely monitoring and observing the Convention's processes that would act as a stimuli to further encourage us to ratify it. The CCW, as haven been repeatedly stressed here in this room, is a Convention on prohibition or restrictions on use of certain conventional weapons and not on the validation or legitimisation of their use.

As a result, while also adding our voice of support to the earlier statement delivered by Costa Rica on behalf of the concerned countries, my delegation would re-emphasise the need for us to give the aspect of humanitarian concern a greater touch in the work of the Convention. In this way, and in a bid to universalise the Convention, we would be better placed and encouraged to ratify.

The Nigerian delegation has taken the floor today to dissociate the country from any decision that would allow the continued existence of these weapons, not less their use, since these weapons are known to have indiscriminate effects both on civilian and military personnel.

I thank you for your attention..