**FORUM:** Disarmament Commission

**QUESTION OF:** Developing Strategies to Effectively Regulate the Autonomous Weapons Systems

**MAIN-SUBMITTER:** Haiti

**CO-SUBMITTER:** Niger, Saudi Arabia, China, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Vietnam, Philippines, Israel, Cote d’Ivoire, Lebanon

THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSION,

*Realizing the fact* that autonomous weapons could not only kill innocent people but they don't face the responsibilities and punishments that humans normally get for killing people; 97 countries have responded to this challenge and shared opinions of lethal autonomous weapons since 2013 when the matter was first discussed at the Human Rights Council,

*Aware of the fact* that over the past years, few countries, such as China, Israel, Turkey, South Korea, etc., have used autonomous weapons to reduce human-operated machinery,

*Recognizing* the duty for all countries to protect humanity from the development of autonomous weapons, to keep meaningful human control over the use of force is an ethical imperative, a legal necessity, a moral obligation,

*Alarmed* by the increase in the total amount of autonomous weapons, and the use of autonomous weapons also keeps increasing,

*Bearing in mind* that since 2018, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has urged states multiple times to prohibit many weapons systems,

*Noting* that the Autonomous Weapon System (AWS) were called “morally repugnant and politically unacceptable” due to their ability to target and attack humans by themselves,

*Observing* that the use of AWS could shape public perception of war and combat, especially for young people, potentially desensitizing them to violence,

1. Calls upon member states to establish and adopt an international, legally binding framework governing the use of AWS that:
   1. ensures AWS is used in compliance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law (IHRL) by developing AI driven target identification systems that comply with IHL principles of distinction, ensuring AWS engages only legitimate military targets,
   2. sets clear guidelines for the ethical deployment of AWS, emphasizing the protection of civilian lives and property by:
      1. establishing an international list of civilian-protected areas where AWS use is strictly prohibited,
      2. defining international standards that require human intervention for AWS decisions involving lethal force in civilian areas,
      3. utilizing multiple sensors or cross-reference data from several sources (e.g. GPS, radar, visual recognition) to confirm the target identity and status before engagement,
   3. establishes a standardized accountability mechanism to attribute responsibility for actions taken by AWS in combat scenarios;
2. Urges the establishment of strict human oversight in the operation of autonomous weapons by requiring human control over critical decision-making functions such as but not limited to:
3. decisions on lethal targeting and engagement, to ensure the protection of civilian lives by:
   * 1. creating and enforcing strict no-go zones in areas with high concentrations of civilians, such as schools, hospitals, parks, department stores, and other public spaces, and restrict AWS operations only to clearly defined areas,
     2. programming the AWS to have facial recognition, allowing them to recognize the target but the decision on whether they are killed should be made by humans to reduce unwanted deaths,
4. deactivation mechanisms to prevent uninteded engagements or malfunctions by:
   * 1. programming the AWS to have facial recognition, allowing them to recognize the target but the decision on whether they are killed should be made by humans to reduce unwanted deaths,
     2. allowing the AWS to be time activated, the government would be able to decide which times that the AWS will be deactivated,
     3. building an emergency switch button on the AWS which, when pressing it will deactivate straight away;
5. Encourages the development and safety implementation of dual-use technology, with applications in both military and civilian sectors by:
   1. enhancing research collaboration and resource sharing with civilian industries for technological innovation, which encourages partnerships between military and tech companies to advance research and to reduce cost,
   2. mitigating excessive military spending on AWS development through cost-sharing with non-military sectors,
   3. supporting civilian research into ethical AI development to create more robust, accountable systems by funding civilian projects focused on developing ethical AI to make sure it aligns with humanitarian values;
6. Recommends member states to raise awareness for the purpose of the ethical implications and risks of AWS, targeting on both military and civilians in ways such as but not limited to:
   1. providing specilaized training for developers, operators, and policymakers in both military sectors by:
      1. having practice drills of how to lead the people into a safer place, once in a while for the developers, operators, and policymakers to manage during an emergency of when the AWS starts to get active,
      2. having sessions where they would be able to understand about the AWS functionality more clearly and when there is a problem they would know what would cause it, allowing them to fix an emergency more efficiently,
   2. conducting public awareness initiatives to foster understanding of AWS implications on human rights and humanitarian law by:
      1. having AWS classes in school just like how they teach kids about global warming in school to make sure everyone in the community understands more about the AWS and its capabilities,
      2. posting and making advertisements on the media around the world to inform not only the people in the area that is getting harmed but other countries,
   3. creating educational programs for anyone in the community and non-military sectors of the risk of AWS and its capabilities that it can have on people;
7. Requests the creation of a United Nations High-Level Panel on Autonomous Weapons Systems for the purpose of periodic auditing and assessment of AWS functionality to ensure they adhere to established ethical standards and laws in ways such as but not limited to:
   1. monitoring and reviewing AWS developments and provide recommendations for compliance with international laws,
   2. convening annual international conferences to foster dialogue on emerging risks, advancements, and best practices in AWS,
   3. compiling an annual report on AWS developments, risks, and regulatory progress for presentation to the UN General Assembly;
8. Further recommends the government and military sectors to manage and reduce the export and import of raw materials used for the production of autonomous weapons systems to effectively control the number of AWS produced annually in ways such as but not limited to:
9. tracking the transportation of potential raw materials for AWS production in port areas,
10. conducting regular checks with the AWS industry to monitor the quantity of raw materials imported,
11. implementing regular audits and inspections in cooperation with international regulatory bodies to assess compliance with material import restrictions,
12. encouraging collaboration with neighboring countries to monitor cross-border transportation routes to prevent illegal material transfers.