Japan is pleased to submit the following ideas and suggestions based on the “zero draft” produced by the chair-designate on 5 March 2014.

1. **Stockpile Management, including physical security measures**
   - Appropriate physical security and stockpile management of SALW is essential in our efforts to prevent their diversion to the illicit market. It is suggested that States exchange information on good practices related to stockpile management, including their established standards and procedures at the BMS5. Likewise, it is encouraged that, at the BMS5, any States or civil society that have experience or analytical research about SALW diversion from stockpiles to share them, including the reasons why it happened, at what point it happened and/or views on how to prevent it from recurring.
   - Regional cooperation is important not only for surplus destruction/disposal, but also for exchange of information and national experiences in the area of stockpile management, taking into account the important role of the United Nations and regional and sub-regional organizations. This was the commitment we made at the BMS3 (Paragraph 27 (c)). It would be useful to assess if we made some progress in this regard at the BMS5.
   - Japan welcomes the proposed topic “Establishment of agreed guidelines or standards for stockpile management”. We may consider including this as a follow-up issue in the section “the way forward” in the outcome document.

2. **International Tracing Instrument (ITI)**
   - Many States as well as civil society have expressed their view about the need to continue exchanging information and discussing issues related to marking technology for newly developed SALW, such as Polymer framed small arms. Japan looks forward to the UNSG’s report on these issues to be made public in the near future. We suggest that a focused discussion on these issues, with the UNSG’s report as a basis, be held and the next steps be considered at the BMS5. We may consider recommending these issues as the main topic to be dealt with at the next year’s Meeting of Governmental Experts.
Enhancing the exchange of tracing results between appropriate authorities at the national, regional and international levels is important in order to prevent further diversion of small arms and light weapons. It was a great achievement that we agreed and committed ourselves to this at the Second Review Conference (A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4 Annex II paragraph 2 (d)), and we should reaffirm this commitment. It should also be noted that Article 11 (5) of the Arms Trade Treaty provides the need for its States Parties to share relevant information on effective measures to address diversion. The challenge before us now is how to effectively implement this commitment while bearing in mind paragraphs 14 and 15 of the ITI. Therefore, it should be encouraged, as an initial step, that at the BMS5, States share their experiences and good practices on exchanging tracing results bilaterally or at regional level, as appropriate.

3. International Cooperation and Assistance

We made substantive and comprehensive commitments on international cooperation and assistance in the Second Review Conference Outcome Document (A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4 Annex I Part II. D). States should reaffirm these commitments.

Capacity building is an essential part of international cooperation and assistance in order to make it sustainable within limited resources. It is suggested that both donor and recipient countries commit themselves to this goal. For instance, donor States should commit themselves to pay due regard to capacity building in providing SALW related assistance, including technical assistance. At the same time, recipient States could also commit themselves to maintain or even strengthen their capacity in the area in which they received assistance, by such means as training other relevant officials in their country.

UNSCAR is a useful funding mechanism to support States in the implementation of the PoA and the ITI. In order to enhance transparency, all the UN Member States should be kept informed about the progress of UNSCAR, including at the BMS5.

Many States, including Japan, have been engaged in international cooperation and assistance for the full and effective implementation of the PoA and the ITI since 2001. We may consider taking stock of and making an assessment of that assistance, whether it matches the recipients’ needs and whether it is implemented in an effective manner.

For that purpose, it is also suggested to encourage those experts who are involved in international cooperation and assistance related to SALW to participate in the BMS5 and express their views or share good practices.
On the proposed topic regarding a comprehensive study by the UN on assistance, it should be noted that UNIDIR made a study and published a report in 2010 (“Searching for Aid Effectiveness in Small Arms Assistance”).

We believe that “Matching Needs and Resources”, which is developed by UNODA and facilitated at the meeting of the Group of Interested States in NY is a very useful tool in realizing effective international cooperation and assistance. This approach should be further encouraged and strengthened.

On the proposed topic regarding the establishment of a fellowship programme, we propose to utilize the existing UN Programme of Fellowship on Disarmament, rather than establishing a new mechanism. We may recommend UNGA to pay more attention to SALW issues within the existing Fellowship programme.

4. Follow-up to the Second Review Conference/Other issues

States have continuously emphasized the importance of regional approaches, including through the annual omnibus resolutions as well as the Second Review Conference Outcome Documents. We should continue encouraging interested States and regional and international organizations to convene regional meetings in preparation for, and/or to follow up on the PoA meetings. In order to promote synergies and complementarities with other relevant international and regional instruments, it could be considered that such regional meetings would cover not only the PoA but also other relevant international or regional instruments, such as the ATT, the UN Register of Conventional Arms, OSCE Document on SALW, the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA) and other SALW related treaties in Africa, as appropriate.

As for a middle/long term agenda, we should explore synergies with other relevant international instruments, such as the ATT, the Firearm Protocol and the UN Register of Conventional Arms, including substantive work and a reporting mechanism. As an interim measure, it could be useful to keep relevant parties and secretariats engaged with each other and relevant organizations to participate in PoA meetings.

Early designation of the chair of PoA meeting is encouraged (A/CONF/192/2012/RC/4 Annex I Part III. Paragraph5). Thus, Japan would like to encourage the relevant regional group (Eastern Group) to nominate the chair for next year’s Meeting Group of Experts as early as possible.