



**OPCW**

**Conference of the States Parties**

Twelfth Session  
5 – 9 November 2007

C-12/DEC.11  
9 November 2007  
Original: ENGLISH

## **DECISION**

### **UNIVERSALITY OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND THE FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNIVERSALITY ACTION PLAN**

#### **The Conference of the States Parties,**

**Recognising** the contribution that every new ratification of and accession to the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”) makes to the fostering of international peace and security and of global stability;

**Reaffirming** the priority it attaches to the attainment of the universality of the Convention and that the universality of the Convention is fundamental to the achievement of its object and purpose;

**Recalling** that, at its Eighth Session, the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter “the Conference”) noted the action plan for the universality of the Convention, which the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”) adopted at its Twenty-Third Meeting (EC-M-23/DEC.3, dated 24 October 2003) at the recommendation of the First Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (RC1/5, dated 9 May 2003);

**Reaffirming further** the importance of all the provisions of the action plan and the measures identified therein for promoting the universality of the Convention, as well as the decisions adopted by the Conference at its Tenth (C-10/DEC.11, dated 10 November 2005) and Eleventh (C-11/DEC.8, dated 7 December 2006) Sessions;

**Recalling also** that, at its Tenth and Eleventh Sessions, the Conference decided, *inter alia*, to review, at its Twelfth Session, 10 years after the entry into force of the Convention, “the implementation of the plan and take any decision it deems necessary, in particular addressing the status of those States not Party whose non-adherence to the Convention is a cause for serious concern” (C-11/DEC.8);

**Noting** the annual report on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period from 30 September 2006 to 31 August 2007, as submitted by the Director-General (EC-50/DG.14 C-12/DG.4, dated 14 September 2007);



**Noting also** with satisfaction that, as a result of the progress achieved since the adoption of the action plan, 27 States have become Parties to the Convention, and **noting further** that this reflects a total of 182 States Parties, with 13<sup>1</sup> States remaining to join the Convention;

**Recognising** the efforts of States Parties and the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) to promote the universality of the Convention; and

**Recalling** that States that remain outside the Convention would not be able to take advantage of the benefits that the Convention offers to States Parties;

**Hereby:**

1. **Calls upon** all the remaining States not Party to ratify or accede to the Convention without further delay, thereby confirming their commitment to global peace and security, disarmament, and non-proliferation;
2. **Urges** all States Parties and the Secretariat to continue to intensify their universality-related efforts with a view to increasing the number of States Parties;
3. **Requests** the Director-General to reinforce his contacts with the States not Party, encouraging them to join the Convention without further delay and to report on these contacts and the progress made thereon;
4. **Requests** the Secretariat to continue to utilise all available opportunities and resources, including diplomatic channels and international forums, to advance the objectives of the action plan in accordance with the mandate provided to it in the decisions on universality adopted by the Council and the Conference;
5. **Decides** to continue with the action plan, and **further decides** that, at its Fourteenth Session, it shall review the results and implementation of that plan and take any decision it deems necessary, in particular addressing the status of those States not Party whose non-adherence is a cause for serious concern; and
6. **Also requests** the Secretariat to continue to provide and keep current information on activities related to promoting the universality of the Convention and the progress being made thereon, including in an annual report to the Conference at its Thirteenth Session.

- - - 0 - - -

---

<sup>1</sup> As indicated by the Director-General in his report.