



OPCW

Conference of the States Parties

Third Session
16 - 20 November 1998

C-III/DEC.9
20 November 1998
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RECOMMENDATION ON ENSURING THE UNIVERSALITY OF THE CONVENTION

The Conference

Recalling its previous recommendation C-II/DEC.11, dated 5 December 1997, adopted by consensus, which stressed the crucial importance of universality to all States Parties, especially to states with serious security concerns;

Welcoming that since the adoption of the above recommendation, 19 additional states have ratified the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

Determined to achieve the full and effective implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

Reaffirming also the vital and essential importance of universal adherence to the Convention for the realisation of its ultimate goal of a world free from chemical weapons;

Hereby:

1. **Urges** all states which have neither ratified nor acceded to the Convention to do so without delay;
2. **Recommends** to States Parties and the Director-General to continue to make every effort to encourage all states, in particular those states believed to possess chemical weapons, which have neither ratified nor acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible;
3. **Decides** to include in the provisional agenda of its fourth session the item entitled "Ensuring Universality of the Convention";
4. **Requests** the Director-General to submit to the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention at its fourth session a report on the implementation of the present recommendation.

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