



OPCW

Review Conference

Fourth Session
21 – 30 November 2018

RC-4/NAT.29
30 November 2018
ENGLISH only

ANGOLA

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA
AT THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES
PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS
CONVENTION**

Excellency,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I have been given the honour to present this message at this important Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (“hereinafter the Convention”) on behalf of the delegation accompanying me and representing the Government of the Republic of Angola.

May I take the opportunity to join all the other States Parties who congratulated H.E. Ambassador Agustín Vázquez Gómez, of the Republic of Salvador, on the election to preside over this great Conference, and to say that I have every confidence he will do an excellent job on behalf of the Organisation and for a world free of chemical weapons, despite the great challenges that we know well.

I would also like to welcome the distinguished representatives of the States Parties to the Convention and the distinguished guests and participants of this great event.

The Republic of Angola aligns itself with the statements made by H.E. Ambassador of the Bolivarian Republic in Venezuela, Haifa Aissami Madah, on behalf of the members of the Non-Aligned Movement and China, and H.E. Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco, Abdelouahab Bellouki, on behalf of the Group of African countries.

The Government of the Republic of Angola recognises the importance of the Convention in the international non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction architecture and for this reason has the honour to be one of the States that ratified the Convention during the period since the last Conference together with the States of Somalia, Syria, Myanmar, and Palestine.

Since ratification in the year 2015, Angola has marked significant steps in the national implementation of the Convention. It has been established a National Authority, it is complying with the requirements of Article VI, carried out joint actions with the OPCW, namely the Mentorship/Partnership with Brazil and the Workshop for Legal Drafters addressed to the Portuguese-speaking countries, as well as it participated in diverse forums, with emphasis on training, promoted by the Organisation.



At the present time, the focus of the work is directed at finalising the regulatory process of the National Authority and streamlining the national implementation process of the Convention, and we, therefore, reiterate our willingness to continue to cooperate with the OPCW and the States Parties, especially in awareness-raising, training and capacity-building activities relevant to achieving the objectives pursued by the Convention.

We believe that in this way we contribute to the preservation of international peace and security, fundamental premises for the healthy coexistence and development of peoples and countries.

As an African country, Angola congratulates the work done under the Africa Programme and encourages its continuation, with a focus on strengthening regional cooperation mechanisms and bodies.

On the other hand, we hope that the revision process will contribute significantly to enhancing the promotion of the peaceful use of chemicals, international cooperation, to the benefit of States Parties without disparity and of humanity in general.

With regard to the universalisation of the Convention, encouragement is directed to States that have not yet ratified this important instrument of peace.

We also encourage all States Parties to work hard in the constant search for consensus and non-politicisation of this important Organisation, whose efforts over the years to eliminate the possibility of using chemical weapons for the good of humanity are recognised by us.

Finally, the Republic of Angola wishes this great event to be productive and to take place in a friendly and cooperative environment so that important recommendations can be adopted.

I request that this document is issued as an official document and therefore published on the official OPCW website.

Thank you very much.

--- 0 ---