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## VENEZUELA

**POSITION PAPER OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT  
THAT ARE STATES PARTIES TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION  
AND CHINA  
DELIVERED BY H.E. AMBASSADOR HAIFA AISSAMI MADAH  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC  
OF VENEZUELA TO THE OPCW  
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION ARTICLE XI  
AT THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE  
OF THE STATES PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION  
OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION**

Taking into account the following positions of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) at the Eighteenth Mid-Term Ministerial Meeting, held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, 3–6 April 2018, regarding the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (“CWC”) Article XI, as referred in the Final Document:

The Ministers of NAM States Parties to the CWC **reaffirmed** the importance of international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under CWC and **reiterated** their call on the developed countries to promote international cooperation for the benefit of States Parties through the transfer of technology, material and equipment for peaceful purposes in the chemical field and the removal of all and any restrictions that are contrary to the letter and spirit of the Convention.

**Recalled** that the full, balanced, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Convention, in particular economic and technical development through international cooperation, is fundamental to the achievement of its object and purpose.

**Reaffirmed** the need to respect the principles included in the Convention, and called upon States Parties to the CWC to avoid the polarisation and politicisation of the work of the Organisation, while encouraging States Parties to continue working cooperatively in the interest of consensus.

**Welcomed** the decision on Components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI adopted at the Sixteenth Conference of the States Parties to the CWC and **considered** it as a positive step towards achieving the goal of the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI.

**Attached** high importance to the adoption of a Plan of Action for the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all the provisions of Article XI.



**Welcomed** the proposal of the Action Plan of Article XI presented by the NAM CWC States and China, which is currently being discussed at the OPCW.

**Looked forward** to the continuation of Article XI consultations with a view to further deliberate the Document of the facilitators as soon as possible for negotiations by delegations in order to adopt a decision in this regard.

**Welcomed** the holding of the annual review and evaluation workshop of the components of an agreed framework for the full implementation of article XI and **stressed** the importance of the active participation of States Parties in the annual workshops.

In this context, and taking into account the importance of adopting an Action Plan for the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI, the Ministers of NAM States Parties to the CWC considered that States Parties to the CWC should present concrete recommendations and proposals before the Fourth Review Conference. To that end, the Ministers of NAM States Parties to the CWC **called upon** NAM States Parties to the CWC to continue engaging in discussions towards this end, within the framework of the NAM Chapter in The Hague.

**Hereby the NAM CWC States Parties and China to the Fourth Review Conference**, bearing in mind the importance of the adoption of an action plan for the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI and the **absence of new relevant decisions** in this regard since 2011:

**Recall** our position paper on the implementation of Article XI circulated on 1 December 2016, during the Twenty-First Session of the Conference of the States Parties.

**Encourage** the Technical Secretariat and States Parties to make fullest efforts, including the annual workshop and consultations to commence a comprehensive discussion in the policy-making organs (PMO) on the implementation of components of the agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI (C-16/DEC. 10, dated 1 December 2011), in order to adopt a Plan of Action for the implementation of this Article, and also to move forward in the formulation of an OPCW strategy on international cooperation. The NAM CWC States Parties and China believe that this will contribute to the economic and technological development of States Parties, and promote peaceful uses of chemistry.

**Encourage** States Parties to continue engaging in discussions on the proposals and recommendations presented by States Parties to the Fourth Review Conference, with regards to adopting an Action Plan for the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI.