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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 THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS  
CONVENTION ARTICLE XI COMPLIANCE  
AT THE TWENTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE  
STATES PARTIES**

Taking into account the position of the Non-Aligned Movement and China at the Summit, held in Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on September 2016, the Heads of State or Government of the NAM States Parties to the CWC and China:

**Reaffirmed** the importance of international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under Chemical Weapons Convention.

**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.

**Ensuring** the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI of the Convention has been a top priority for the Non-Aligned Movement that are States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention and China for a long time. While welcoming the continued co-operation between developing countries, the NAM States Parties to the CWC and China believe that the developed countries bear special responsibility to promote international cooperation in the framework of Convention for the benefit of developing countries and refrain from imposing and/or maintaining any restrictions and/or limitations that are contrary to the Convention.

In this regard, Non-Aligned Movement that are States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention and China **recall** their proposal for a Plan of Action on the Full Implementation of Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention.



### **Main Elements for an Action Plan**

1. To guarantee the implementation, as appropriate, of the decisions taken by the policy-making organs of the OPCW in regard to Article XI at national, bilateral, regional, and multilateral levels.
2. To review by all States Parties their national regulation on international exchange and transfer, in order to ensure its consistency with the objectives and provisions of Article XI.
3. To adopt and update, on a regular basis, by the States Parties concrete national measures to promote technology transfer and international cooperation in the field of Chemistry, especially for developing countries.
4. To facilitate cooperation towards the creation of structures and transfer of customs control technology in order to facilitate the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Convention.
5. To provide economic and technical support, in a direct manner and through relevant international organisations and institutions, in order to establish structures in the States Parties that demand assistance in the field of exchange of scientific and technical information, chemicals, equipment for the production, processing or use of chemicals for purposes not prohibited under the Convention.
6. To promote and facilitate international and regional workshops on cooperation and scientific and technical exchanges for peaceful purposes in the context of Article XI.
7. To adopt measures that allow establishing networks between scientific community and academic institutions on the peaceful use of chemistry and other fields related to this Convention.
8. To develop collaboration programmes in the fields related to the implementation of the Convention and also in Chemistry, with the support of the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW.
9. To exchange scientific and technical information, chemicals and equipment for the production, processing or use of chemicals for purposes not prohibited under this Convention, with the support of the Secretariat, upon request.

### **Tasks that may be entrusted to the Technical Secretariat:**

- (a) To make a list for information purposes and maintain it up to date, on the voluntary offers of cooperation of the States Parties and the specific requests for cooperation, in accordance with Article XI.
- (b) To continue and enhance the development of internship programs for participants from the States Parties.
- (c) To facilitate assistance to create structures in the field of chemical activities for peaceful purposes.

- (d) To continue to increase, develop, consolidate and execute OPCW international cooperation programmes.
- (e) To promote the participation in courses and workshops of the States Parties personnel, as well as organise international seminars related to the Convention and provide assistance for holding them.
- (f) To establish a link at the OPCW website which may inform about the availability of equipment and materials to be donated or offered by the OPCW and the States Parties.
- (g) To establish an International Cooperation Fund, managed by the Technical Secretariat, which shall be supported by the States Parties contributions on a voluntary basis. The Secretariat shall submit reports to the States Parties on the execution of such fund.
- (h) To designate a focal point within the ICA Division of the Technical Secretariat by the Director-General for the implementation of the Plan of Action.

**The States Parties and Transfer Denials:**

- Any State Party deemed to be affected by a transfer denial of chemicals, tools, laboratory equipment and technical and scientific information for peaceful purposes contrary the international law and the CWC, in particular its Article XI, enjoys the right to inform this situation to all States Parties.
- Denials herein will be submitted and resolved as appropriate. In this regard the Conference of the States Parties or, by its request, the Executive Council shall decide on establishing a mechanism for resolving disputes, with the aim to seek agreements and to overcome possible discrepancies among States Parties.

**Follow-up mechanism of the Plan of Action:**

- The review of the Plan of Action implementation should be an item in the agenda of the Conference of the States Parties and the Executive Council Sessions.
- By reviewing the Plan implementation, achievements and challenges should be pinpointed. The adjustment of the Plan content as well as any other additional measure if necessary shall be decided by the States Parties in order to ensure the full implementation of Article XI of the Convention.