



OPCW

Executive Council

Ninety First Session

9 – 12 July 2019

EC-91/NAT.3

7 June 2019

ENGLISH only

THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

**ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT THAT
ARE STATES PARTIES TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND CHINA**

REQUEST FOR CIRCULATION OF A DOCUMENT

The Permanent Representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), on behalf of the NAM and China, has requested the Chairperson of the Executive Council to circulate the enclosed document, which contains a proposal entitled “Establishment of an Open-Ended Working Group to Identify and Prioritise the Implementation of Items on which Consensus is Achievable among States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention”.

Annex: Note Verbale by the Permanent Representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
No 023/2019, dated 7 June 2019



Annex

**NOTE VERBALE BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF THE
BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA NO 023/2019, DATED 7 JUNE 2019**



MISIÓN PERMANENTE
DE LA REPÚBLICA
BOLIVARIANA DE VENEZUELA
ANTE OPAQ-CPI

Note No. 023/2019.

The Hague, June 7th, 2019.

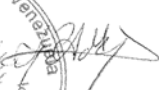
Excellency,

I have the honor to write to you as the Chairperson of the Executive Council of the Organisation for the Prohibition of the Chemical Weapons (OPCW), on behalf of the Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement that are States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention and China, in order to submit the **Proposal** for the establishment of an Open-Ended Working Group to identify and prioritise the implementation of items on which consensus is achievable among States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, requested in our Joint Position Paper which was circulated during the Ninetieth Session of the Executive Council (EC-90/NAT.4*, dated 7 March 2019).*

In this regard, I kindly request that the document be circulated to all States Parties, as well to the Co-facilitators.

The aforementioned proposal and its annex are attached to this Note.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration,


Haifa Aissami Madah
Ambassador
Chairperson of NAM & China to the OPCW

C/ Co-facilitators
C/ TS OPCW

H.E. Mr. Andrea Perugini
Ambassador of the Italian Republic
Alexanderstraat 12, 2514JL
The Hague. –

* Excluding Colombia and Peru who have decided to temporarily suspend their participation in the Movement.

**The Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement that are
States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention* and
China**

Proposal to Co-facilitators

**ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP TO IDENTIFY AND
PRIORITISE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITEMS ON WHICH CONSENSUS IS
ACHIEVABLE AMONG STATES PARTIES TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS
CONVENTION**

- 1.- **Recalling** that paragraph 22 of article VIII of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) indicates that special sessions shall be held at five-yearly intervals to review the operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.
- 2.- **Recalling** that since the entry into force of the Convention, four special sessions have been held to review the operation of the Convention. The first three periods had a final report by consensus (RC-1/5 dated May 9, 2003, RC-2/4 dated April 18, 2008 and RC-3/3 * dated April 19, 2013).
- 3.- **Further recalling** that although the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties for the Review of the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (Fourth Review Conference) ended without the adoption of a final report, during its process of preparation and developing, wide, inclusive and constructive discussions took place among the States Parties, which resulted in a significant number of items reaching consensus among States Parties (Chair's summary on the Ambassadorial retreat in preparation for RC-4 October 15, 2018 - RC-4/CRP.1 WGRC-4/2 and RC-4/CoW.1.)
- 4.- **Highlighting** the positive work done, the wide, inclusive and constructive discussions among the States Parties during the process of preparing and developing the Fourth Review Conference, which must be considered in order to achieve the object and purpose of the Convention, as well as its full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation.
- 5.- **Considering** the Joint Position Paper presented by the member States of the Non-Aligned Movement that are States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention and China (EC-90/NAT.4 *) during the 90th session of the Executive Council, entitled "Follow-up to the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties for the Review of the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention". This Joint Position Paper, "proposes the establishment of an Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) to identify those elements contained in the Chairperson's Report of the Fourth Review Conference that reached consensus and determine the prioritization of the implementation of the identified issues. "

Therefore, the **Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement that are States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention* and China** propose to the Co-facilitators to submit to the EC-91 a draft decision containing the following actions:

6.- **Establish** an Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) to identify and prioritise the implementation of items on which consensus is achievable among states parties to the chemical weapons convention.

7.- **Appoint** as Co-Chairpersons of the OEWG Ambassador I Gusti Agung Wesaka Puja, Permanent Representative of Indonesia, who served as Chairperson of the Open-ended Working Group for the Preparation of the Fourth Review Conference and Ambassador Agustín Vásquez Gómez, Permanent Representative of El Salvador, who served as Chairperson of the Fourth Review Conference.

8.- **Request** the Co-Chairpersons of the OEWG to develop methods and a programme of work, in consultation with States Parties, bearing in mind that the OEWG shall operate on a transparent, inclusive, and consensus-driven basis.

9.- **Request** the Co-Chairpersons of the OEWG to start consultations on the items which are listed in *Annex I*.

10.- **Request** the Technical Secretariat to provide to the Co-Chairpersons of the OEWG/F-RC4 the customary level of support and advice.

11.- **Request** the Co-Chairpersons of the OEWG to report on progress achieved to the Ninety-Second Session of the Executive Council.

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* Excluding Colombia and Peru who have decided to temporarily suspend their participation in the Movement.

Annex I

Cluster	Item	Reference paragraph of RC-4 Chair's Report
Verification	Augmenting verification capabilities	9.59 (i)
	Laboratory designation and cooperation between designated laboratories and laboratories seeking designation	9.59 (p) 9.59 (q)
	Enhancing Article VI implementation	9.59 (u)
Capacity development	Capacity building of the States Parties for full implementation of the CWC	9.60 (a) 9.60 (e)
Assistance and protection against chemical weapons	Support to States Parties in building capabilities against chemical weapons and chemical accidents.	9.70 (b) 9.70 (f)
Economic and technological development	Promoting international cooperation for the economic and technological development of the States Parties	9.81 (a) 9.81 (b) 9.81 (c) 9.81 (j) 9.81 (e)
Organizational governance	OEWG on Terrorism and combating chemical terrorism	9.100 (b)
	Major capital investment	9.100 (h)
	Tenure policy with due importance to gender balance and equitable geographical representation	9.100 (i) 9.100 (k)
	Recruitment policy taking into account the need for gender balance and equitable geographical representation	9.100 (m) 9.100 (n)
	Funded internship and JPO Programmes	9.100 (s)