



**OPCW**

**Executive Council**

Ninety-First Session

9 – 12 July 2019

EC-91/NAT.23

11 July 2019

ENGLISH only

**CUBA**

**STATEMENT BY SUSELLYS PÉREZ MESA  
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE OPCW  
AT THE NINETY-FIRST SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**UNDER AGENDA ITEM 6(L)**

Mr President:

The Cuban delegation would like to thank the facilitator Sr. Junaid Sadiq of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, for the report presented to the Executive Council on the current status of Article XI, the results of the informal consultations carried out during the inters-session period, and especially the recently held workshop about the component of an agreed framework for the full implementation of Article XI which took place last 1 July.

Our delegation reiterates its willingness to continue working with all other delegations to advance the implementation of this important Article both in the OPCW as well as at the national level by the States Parties, in accordance with Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention (“the Convention”) on the national application measures.

As expressed during the general debate, we commend the efforts of the Technical Secretariat and the International Cooperation and Assistance Division in moving towards the full, active, effective, and nondiscriminatory implementation of Article XI.

Taking into consideration the very limited progress made in the implementation of this pillar of the Convention, the importance of which was once more demonstrated during the debates of the Twenty-Third Conference of the States Parties and the previous deliberations of the Fourth Review Conference, in which several delegations intervened about the importance of making progress in OPCW the adoption of measures necessary to enable economic and technological development of the State Parties in chemical activities for non-prohibited goals by the present Convention among other contents of Article XI.

In this respect, the Cuban delegation wishes to officially present a national working document, with the propose of exchanging views and the debate on the importance of agreeing on the necessary measures to ensure the deliberations and the evaluation of the numerous proposals on the importance of Article XI, which have been presented in the OPCW by individual countries and groups of countries such as the Non-Aligned Movement plus China.

I will now outline the essential elements contained in the document:



1. The holding of workshops in accordance with decision C-16/DEC.10 shall have an effective and systematic preparation process in the Facilitation Mechanism of Article XI.
2. The facilitation shall define the work modalities, the topics to be considered in the workshop, the working agenda proposal, the most adequate dates its conduction and the availability of budget resources for the workshops.
3. The facilitation shall consider the concrete results expected from the workshop and the drafting of recommendation proposals derived from the same to be presented to the OPCW policy making organs, considering that the very Decision C-16/DEC.10 establishes that workshops have the purpose of assisting the decision making organs of the Organisation to promote the full implementation of this Article.

Likewise, the Facilitation of Article XI shall also count as part of its annual work programme, the consideration of the work documents and proposals presented, including the adoption of a Plan of Action for the implementation of this Article, as well as the result of previous workshops

Mr President:

The document presented also reaffirms the need of strengthening the links among the policy making organs and the Facilitation process with the purpose of fulfilling the set goals.

The Executive Council has the responsibility of ensuring the compliance with all its decisions. The implementation of the Decision C-16/DEC.10 is long overdue and is a matter of pressing importance.

Thank you very much.

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