



STATEMENT BY H.E AMBASSADOR MARIA ISABEL
RESENDE ENCOGE
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ANGOLA
NINTH SECOND SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
OCTOBER 8-11-2019

Mr. President,
Mr. Director-General,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Mr. President,

I appreciate the opportunity given to me to intervene for the first time in this council and to greet His Excellency Ambassador Andrea Perugini of Italy, President of this Council, and express my confidence in his skillful leadership to lead this important session.

The Angolan delegation congratulates His Excellency General Director, Ambassador Fernando Arias, for the exhaustive form in which he presented his report.

The Republic of Angola is associated with the declarations of the group of African countries presented by its coordinator, His Excellency Permanent Representative of Sudan, Ambassador Kamal Bashir Ahmed and the Movement of non-aligned countries and China, presented by Distinguished Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Ambassador Haifa Aissami Madah.

The Angolan delegation is prepared to contribute to the actions of the OPCW, regarding the complete elimination of all types of chemical weapons and condemns its use for non-peaceful purposes.

We call on the other hand, the States that aren't yet members to the convention, to ratify it, so that the universality of the Convention on

Chemical weapons is to be attained, which constitutes one of the pillars of this organization.

We recognize that the complete and non-discriminatory implementation of all the provisions of the Convention contributes to international peace and security, as well as to the economic and technological development of the member States.

As an African country, the Republic of Angola encourages the ongoing actions under the "*Africa Program*" and welcomes the progress made in the "*fourth phase*" and we expect more achievements in its "*fifth phase*".

We also emphasize the importance of sustaining and financing this program under regular budgetary allocation.

My delegation welcomes the proposals for technical changes in the chemicals annex to the Chemical Weapons Convention and encourages sponsors to make broad and open consultations, with the participation of the Technical Secretariat, in order to obtain consensus and thus allow its adoption.

We reiterate our position in contributing to the achievement of total disarmament, under strict and effective control of the international community, including the prohibition and elimination of all weapons of mass destruction.

We encourage the employment of staff in the Technical Secretariat to observe a fair and balanced geographic representation of gender, allowing candidates from developing regions to have access to professional positions in the technical Secretariat.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the co-facilitators who worked hard for the Draft program and budget of the OPCW for 2020, Lords Marcin Kawalowski, from Poland and Daniel Baptista, from Portugal, for the excellent work done.

My delegation also applauds the tireless efforts of the co-facilitators, Ambassador of Indonesia I Gusti Agung Wesaka Puja and Ambassador of El Salvador Agustín Vásquez Gómez in this regard.

Mr. President,

To conclude, I would like to encourage member States to cooperate to the successful conclusion of this session.

Thank you very much, Mr. President

I request that this statement be considered as an Official document and published on the website.