



**STATEMENT BY H.E AMBASSADOR MARIA ISABEL
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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA
TWENTY – FOURTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE
OF STATES PARTIES NOVEMBER 25 – 29 - 2019**

**DECLARATION BY THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA ON THE
TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF STATES
PARTIES (November 25-29-2019)**

Mr. Chairman,
Mr. Director-General,
Members of Presidium,
Distinguished Delegates,

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me to begin by welcome you as the Chairman, of the 24th Session of the Conference of the States Parties.

I am confident that with your experience, leadership, the conference will be guided to a successful conclusion. I assure you full support and cooperation of the Angolan Delegation.

We congratulate, Ambassador, Yun Lee of the Republic of Korea, President of the 23rd Session of the Conference of States Parties, for all his efforts to bring to a successful conclusion the work of the 23rd Session of the Conference of States Parties.

In this spirit, also, we would like to congratulate the Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Ambassador Haifa Aissami Madah, for the cordial and competent manner in which she conducted during her term, the work of the Group of Non-Aligned Countries and China in the OPCW, and wish the best successes in continuing her tasks.

We congratulate and believe on the other hand that the delegation from Azerbaijan, which is now taking over the presidency of NAM and China and wishing the best successes in this arduous task.

Mr. Chairman,

Angola is associated with the statements of the Group of African Countries, presented by its coordinator, the Permanent Representative of Sudan, Ambassador Kamal Bashir Ahmed and that of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China, presented by Mr. Jafar Huseynzada illustrious Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

We appreciate the efforts been made by the Secretariat under the Leadership of the Director – General, Ambassador Fernando Arias, that carried out the challenges on implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention and felicitate for the detailed report he presented to us.

We condemn Chemical Terrorism, wherever it may be and in whatever form, and on the other hand, call upon States possessing Chemical Weapons to continue their efforts for its complete elimination.

We call for the full and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of Article XI with a view to contributing to the economic and technological development of States Parties.

We believe that the adoption of the OPCW Budget Program and other issues of importance of this organization through consensus is fundamental to achieving the objectives of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Angola emphasizes and encourages ongoing actions under the "***Africa Program***" and welcomes the progress achieved in the "***Fourth Phase***" of the Enhanced Cooperation Program with Africa and we look forward to the implementation of the "***Fifth Phase***" of this program.

Mr. Chairman,

Since Angola became a State Party, created the National Authority which is responsible for ensuring the National Implementation of the Convention and has regularly complied with the OPCW regulations.

In the context of the activities planned by OPCW for the year of 2020, Angola maintains its availability to host regional events and other national authority training.

We congratulate the work done by the Education and Dissemination Council, and encourage its continuation.

We call on all States Parties to fully fulfil their obligations under Article X of the Convention.

We recognize that the full and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Convention contributes to international peace and security.

My delegation welcome the efforts of the sponsors of the joint proposal and Russian Federation, for their spirit of compromise which will result in the adoption by consensus in this Session.

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 urge that the employment of staff in the Technical Secretariat should be fair and transparent and observe a geographical and gender balance at all professional levels of the Organization.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, we encourage all States Parties to work with a spirit of goodwill and cooperation to successfully conclude this session by consensus.

Thank you very much Mr. chairman,

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