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**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN  
ON THE FOSTERING OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR PEACEFUL  
PURPOSES IN THE FIELD OF CHEMICAL ACTIVITIES (ARTICLE XI) AT THE  
TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES**

Mr Chairperson,

My delegation attaches great importance to the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI of the Convention. Obviously all Articles of the Convention have to be fully implemented but it is unfortunate that there is still a lack of necessary progress in the implementation of Article XI. Despite the efforts made to this end, the facts are suggestive of an unbalanced implementation of the Convention and non-compliance of some States Parties with their obligations towards the implementation of this Article.

Some may wrongly state that the Convention has not been created for the purpose of enhancing economic development of the countries, but it is essential to recall that States Parties, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article XI, are obliged to avoid hampering the economic or technological development of States Parties, and should foster international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention.

While welcoming some efforts made on international cooperation, my delegation strongly rejects imposing discriminatory restrictions and particularly unilateral sanctions against Member States of this Organisation which directly affects the health and medication of the victims of chemical weapons, as well as the development of the developing countries in the field of chemical activities for peaceful purposes.

The annual review and evaluation workshops of the components of an agreed framework for the implementation of Article XI might have been somewhat useful to date but I would like to point out a few shortcomings of these workshops: They are involved in some issues that are far from the core objective of Article XI and there is no accurate evaluation and assessment of any success in the results and outputs of such workshops.

If the core idea and objective of Article XI is to be materialised in a full and effective manner, it is essential for all States Parties, particularly the developed countries, to play a significant role in implementing this Article fully and effectively and to support the increase of budget allocated to the implementation of this Article.



To this end, we highlight that there is a need for a mechanism to ensure the full and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention and recall the long-standing position of the Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement and China to establish a cooperation committee or working group that could contribute to the implementation of Article XI by identifying challenges and obstacles.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.

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