



OPCW

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ENGLISH and SPANISH only

CUBA

**STATEMENT BY H.E. MRS SORAYA ÁLVAREZ NÚÑEZ
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA TO THE OPCW
AT THE NINETY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Addendum

Mr Chairperson,

The Cuban delegation again reiterates its concerns regarding the application of norms and procedures in adopting decisions at the Organisation in line with the Convention.

With regard to the initiative entitled “Understanding Regarding the Aerosolized Use of Central Nervous System(CNS)-Acting Chemicals for Law Enforcement Purposes”, the Cuban delegation finds it necessary to hold an exhaustive debate within the regulatory bodies of the Organisation in light of the lack of a definition of central nervous system-acting chemicals in the Convention, with the aim of maintaining the order and the scope, both technical and legal, of this proposal. The lack of a clear-cut definition of these elements could pose important challenges for States Parties in their eventual national implementation.

The framework of the OPCW should not leave any room for different interpretations regarding the use of the terms defined and included in the Convention, nor for the rules of procedure that apply to our efforts, including the procedures for amending the Convention.

The delegation of Cuba notes that in the Draft Programme and Budget for 2021, the International Cooperation and Assistance Programme is the least significant one, with less of a focus in the draft in relation to the budget, personnel, the presence of special funds, and other accounts of the Organisation. The transfer of funds from this programme to other areas, which took place on various occasions, is worthy of attention, even when it is explained that having done so does not affect its objectives. It is further encouraged that this important outcome area be included in the Knowledge Management Programme, which was envisaged in the Draft Programme and Budget, but has yet to be included in it to date.

Regarding the Draft Programme and Budget for 2021, we reiterate that it is necessary to return to the procedures established for the adoption of separate decisions for each of the related items of the Programme and Budget, and not via an omnibus decision. The surplus, in line with established procedure, should be returned to the States Parties, and any decision made in connection thereto should be a separate decision. The Draft 2021 Programme and Budget also includes matters that are very controversial and that do not enjoy a consensus within the Organisation, and should be addressed separately, and not as part of an omnibus decision, in line with the different aspects contained in the Financial Regulations of the OPCW.



With regard to the proposal to modify the Rules of Procedure of the Advisory Body for Administrative and Financial Matters (ABAF), the Cuban delegation supports the principle of the legitimate right of the States Parties to nominate the candidates that it believes bring together the professional requirements that best match this Body's mandate.

I request that this addendum to the national statement of the Cuban delegation be circulated as an official document of the Ninety-Fifth Session of the Executive Council of the OPCW and published on the OPCW's website and external server.

Thank you.

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