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**Conference of the States Parties**

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**REPUBLIC OF CUBA**

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBER STATES  
OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT THAT ARE STATES PARTIES  
TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND CHINA AT THE  
FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES**

Mr Chairperson,

1. On behalf of the Members of the Non-Aligned Movement that are States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention, and China (the NAM CWC States Parties and China) I would like to welcome you as Chairman of this Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention. We are confident that your knowledge, skills, and experience will enable you to steer our work to a successful conclusion and I assure you of the full support of the NAM CWC States Parties and China.
2. I also take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Chairperson, Ambassador Minoru Shibuya, Ambassador of Japan, for his dedicated work as Chair of the Thirteenth Conference of the States Parties. I also wish to congratulate the newly elected Bureau members of this Fourteenth Session of the Conference.
3. I would also like to convey our appreciation to the Director-General, Mr Rogelio Pfirter, for the presentation of his opening statement, which shall facilitate the deliberations of this important Conference.

Mr Chairperson,

4. The NAM CWC States Parties and China express their commitment to the full and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention. We reiterate our long-standing principled position for the achievement of complete disarmament, and for international peace and security, including those expressed in the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement, which took place in July this year in Cairo, Egypt.
5. Accordingly, the NAM CWC States Parties and China wish to outline their position on important issues before the OPCW, with particular emphasis on the agenda of this Fourteenth Conference of the States Parties to the Convention.



Mr Chairperson,

6. The existence of weapons of mass destruction continues to pose a threat to international peace and security. The NAM CWC States Parties and China reiterate their call for general and complete disarmament, under strict and effective international control, including the prohibition and elimination of all weapons of mass destruction in line with the first preambular paragraph of the Convention.
7. We stress that the total destruction of chemical weapons is one of the fundamental pillars of the Convention. In this regard, compliance with the deadlines of destruction of all chemical weapons, including abandoned chemical weapons, within the final extended deadline, as set forth in the Convention, constitutes an integral part of the obligations by the chemical weapons possessor States and by abandoning States Parties.
8. As more than 48% of chemical weapons stockpiles are still to be destroyed and the destruction of a significant number of abandoned chemical weapons is yet to start, the NAM CWC States Parties and China express their serious concern about the pace of destruction of chemical weapons, as well as the destruction of abandoned chemical weapons, in light of the fast-approaching final deadline, by 29 April 2012, as extended by the Eleventh Conference of the States Parties and the Forty-Sixth Session of the Executive Council, respectively. Consequently, the NAM CWC States Parties and China reaffirm that verification of the remaining chemical weapons stockpiles and of their destruction, shall continue to be one of the main tasks of the Technical Secretariat.
9. The NAM CWC States Parties and China express their grave concern over the fact that, according to the available reports, the United States of America may not be in a position to meet the final extended deadline for the destruction of its chemical weapons stockpiles, which endangers the credibility and the integrity of the Chemical Weapons Convention. We, therefore, urge all possessor States Parties to take every necessary measure to ensure compliance with the final extended deadline for the destruction of all their chemical weapons stockpiles.
10. We are of the firm belief that this Conference, in line with the decision taken at its Eleventh Session, and as underlined by the Second Review Conference, shall once again reiterate the obligation of possessor States Parties to complete the destruction of their chemical weapons stockpiles, in order to comply with the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012.

Mr Chairperson,

11. The NAM CWC States Parties and China note with satisfaction the progress made towards achieving universality of the Convention. In this context, we wish to congratulate Iraq, the Dominican Republic, and the Bahamas, who acceded to the Convention during 2009, thus bringing the number of States Parties to 188.
12. We firmly believe that the effective contribution of the Convention to international and regional peace and security can be enhanced through the universality of the Convention.

13. The NAM CWC States Parties and China wish to express their appreciation to the States Parties which have contributed to universality-related activities. We also commend the Technical Secretariat for its efforts to promote the universality of the Convention, which is fundamental to the attainment of its object and purpose. We urge all States that have still not joined the Convention to do so without further delay, particularly those whose non-adherence to the Convention has given rise to serious concern. In this regard, we request the Secretariat and those States Parties in a position to do so, to intensify their efforts with a view to achieving full universality at the earliest possible date.

Mr Chairperson,

14. The NAM CWC States Parties and China recall the importance of the provisions of Article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention, underlined by the Second Review Conference, and emphasise that the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of this Article is essential for the realisation of the object and purpose of the Convention.
15. We reiterate that the promotion of international cooperation in the exchange of chemicals, equipment, and scientific and technological information in the field of chemical activities, aimed at facilitating economic and social development, is fundamental for the achievement of the objectives of the Convention.
16. We stress the obligation of States Parties to implement the Convention in a manner that avoids hampering the economic or technological development of States Parties as well as international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention.
17. The NAM CWC States Parties and China strongly believe that it is imperative to ensure the removal of and to avoid the imposition of any restrictions that are contrary to the letter and spirit of the Convention, which prevent access to materials, equipment, and technology required by developing States Parties for their continued and peaceful development. Such restrictions affect the Convention's long-term viability and have an adverse impact on the trust existing among States Parties.
18. The NAM CWC States Parties and China reiterate their call for the fulfilment of the solemn undertakings given at the time of the adoption of the Convention for removal of unwarranted restrictions in the field of trade in chemicals, equipment, and related technologies for peaceful purposes amongst States Parties. In this context we call upon the developed countries to commit to the transfer of technology, material, and equipment for peaceful purposes in the chemical field and the removal of discriminatory restrictions. We emphasise that the objectives of the Convention can be best achieved through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive, and non-discriminatory agreements by all States Parties.
19. We recall the relevant decisions of the Tenth, Eleventh, and Twelfth Conferences of the States Parties on the full implementation of Article XI, as well as the recommendations made by the Second Review Conference of the Convention on this fundamental provision.

20. The NAM CWC States Parties and China welcome the resumption of consultations on the full implementation of Article XI and wish to assure the facilitator of this important endeavour of their full support. We also welcome discussions to organise a workshop to explore ways and means of the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI. We are of the view that such a workshop is one of the steps that would contribute to consultations on the full implementation of Article XI. To this end, the NAM CWC States Parties and China stand ready to engage in substantive deliberations with all States Parties to finalise all aspects of the proposal. In doing so, we are confident that the views of all States Parties shall be taken into account.
21. We recall that the Conference at its Twelfth Session requested the Council pursuant to its previous decision to continue its intensive consultations at regular intervals to develop concrete measures within an agreed framework to ensure the implementation of Article XI. We stress that an agreed plan of action is an essential tool for the full implementation of Article XI. The experience gained by the Organisation in the implementation of other provisions of the Convention through action plans, namely for Article VII and universality, shall guide us in this regard.

Mr Chairperson,

22. The NAM CWC States Parties and China reaffirm that the implementation of Article X of the Convention on assistance and protection against chemical weapons makes a significant contribution to countering the threats of the use of chemical weapons. We stress the importance of achieving and maintaining a high level of readiness of the OPCW to provide timely, adequate, and effective assistance and protection to its States Parties in situations of use or threat of use of chemical weapons against them. In this context, the NAM CWC States Parties and China support the ongoing preparations for the third OPCW exercise on the delivery of assistance, ASSISTEX 3, to be held in Tunisia from 11 to 15 October 2010 and encourage States Parties to actively participate therein.
23. While paying due respect to the chemical weapons victims and their families, the NAM CWC States Parties and China reiterate their firm conviction that international support for providing special care and assistance to all victims suffering the effects of exposure to chemical weapons is an urgent humanitarian need and that the States Parties to the Convention, as well as the OPCW, should pay urgent attention to meeting such needs. In this regard, we look forward to the start of discussions on the proposal for the establishment of an international support network for the victims of chemical weapons.
24. The NAM CWC States Parties and China believe that the contribution to global antiterrorism efforts in the context of the Convention can be best achieved by the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Convention. In this regard, the promotion of the universality of the Convention, as well as the full implementation of Article X, continues to be of particular importance. We also highlight the significance of international cooperation in the context of the Convention in preventing terrorists from acquiring and/or using chemical weapons.

Mr Chairperson,

25. The verification regime of the OPCW plays an important role in the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Convention. The NAM CWC States Parties and China are committed to participate in the ongoing consultations regarding some of the unresolved issues related to industry verification.
26. We stress the relevant paragraphs of the report of the Second Review Conference (RC-2/4) with regard to declaration and inspection of OCPF sites. The NAM CWC States Parties and China reiterate the desirability of directing inspections towards facilities of greater relevance to the object and purpose of the Convention, and that any proposals to be considered regarding this subject shall exclude the possibility of additional declaration obligations and shall correspond strictly with Part IX of the Verification Annex of the Convention, which is based on the concept of hierarchy of risk.
27. Furthermore, as it was reiterated in the Report of the Second Review Conference (paragraph 9.66), any changes in the frequency of OCPF inspections, if required, should take into account any refinements to the OCPF inspection regime or improvements in site-selection methodology, and should be based on a thorough discussion and a decision of the policy-making organs. The NAM CWC States Parties and China recall decision C-13/DEC.5, and stress that the number of Article VI inspections should be determined within the consultations on the relevant Industry Cluster issues and be agreed by the States Parties as a matter of policy, taking into account budgetary and other relevant considerations.
28. We recall that the modified methodology for the selection of other chemical production facilities for inspection, currently being implemented by the Technical Secretariat, is considered by the NAM CWC States Parties and China as an interim measure, which needs to be thoroughly discussed and adopted by consensus. Therefore, we call for an early appointment of facilitators on the OCPF site-selection methodology, as well as on the issue of the frequency of inspections, with a view to reaching consensus, as expressed in the report of the Fifty-Fourth Session of the Executive Council (EC-54/5).

Mr Chairperson,

29. This Fourteenth Session will undertake a review of the plan of action on the implementation of Article VII adopted at the Eighth Session of the Conference of the States Parties. The NAM CWC States Parties and China welcome the important achievements made with regard to implementation of Article VII obligations during the present year, as reflected in the report by the Director General on the status of implementation of Article VII (EC-58/DG.5). The significant progress attained through a constructive and cooperative approach since the adoption of the plan of action as well as the adoption of C-10/DEC.16 at the Tenth Conference bears testimony to its success.
30. In this context, we encourage all States Parties and the Technical Secretariat to continue to provide meaningful assistance and technical support to States Parties, at their request, and to devise appropriate solutions to overcome the practical difficulties

and resource constraints encountered by individual States Parties in carrying out their national implementation measures.

31. The NAM CWC States Parties and China are of the view that indicators used in the periodic reports of the Technical Secretariat on the implementation of Article VII obligations should only reflect elements that relate directly to the implementation of this Article. We are of the view that clear guidance on the use of appropriate indicators should be reflected in the documents of this Conference.
32. The NAM CWC States Parties and China wish to recall paragraph 15 of decision C-8/DEC.16 on the plan of action on the implementation of Article VII obligations, which urges States Parties to review their existing regulations in the field of trade of chemicals in order to render them consistent with the object and purpose of the Convention. We also believe, in line with this decision, that Technical Secretariat reports on the implementation of Article VII obligations should include detailed information on the reviews undertaken by States Parties in this regard.
33. In terms of Agenda item 16 on administrative and financial matters, the NAM CWC States Parties and China recall that the employment of personnel in the Technical Secretariat is to be fair and transparent. In this context and in accordance with Article VIII, paragraph 44 of the Convention, it is important that the Technical Secretariat observe an equitable geographical representation, particularly at the professional level. In order to assess the impact of the tenure policy on the functioning of the Organisation and on the composition of its staff, we would like to receive detailed information on this matter, as well as updates of the Technical Secretariat documents on the composition of its staff.

Mr Chairperson,

34. The NAM CWC States Parties and China are pleased to endorse the recommendation of the Executive Council at its Fifty-Eighth Session achieved by consensus, that Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü of Turkey be appointed to the position of Director-General of the OPCW for a four-year term, starting from 25 July 2010. We would like to commend Ambassador Oksana Tomová in her former capacity of Chairperson of the Executive Council, as well as Ambassador Jorge Lomónaco Tonda, the current Chairperson of the Executive Council, for their contributions to the successful conclusion of this process.
35. The NAM CWC States Parties and China would also like to extend their sincere gratitude to Ambassador Rogelio Pfirter for his leadership, commitment, and important contribution to the work of this Organisation during his tenure as Director-General.
36. The NAM CWC States Parties and China shall support the incoming Director-General of the OPCW in the fulfilment of his responsibilities, particularly in times when important challenges to the Convention are likely to arise. We emphasise the significance of dedicating growing attention to issues which are of the utmost importance to developing countries and to improving the balance in the implementation of all provisions of the Convention, in order to uphold its integrity and credibility.

Mr Chairperson,

37. It is the clear wish of the NAM CWC States Parties and China to renew the assurances of our fullest cooperation to you and to all Member States in ensuring the success of this Conference. We would like to request that this statement be issued as an official document of the Fourteenth Session of the Conference of the States Parties.

I thank you.

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