

Soft Safety and Security Approach: Promoting A Culture of Responsibility

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Madam Chairperson,

Director General

Excellencies,

Distinguished colleagues

Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of Pakistan House, let me first thank you for the opportunity. The successful implementation of partnership between state parties and OPCW has raised some interesting questions. There is a concern that the regime of chemical disarmament should not become only a legal affair. The final report of the Scientific Advisory Board shows that promoting a culture of "Responsible Chemistry" and peaceful use of knowledge is the key to promote coherent national policies. This clearly reflects the direct link between independent choice of studying chemistry, and hence not challenging rights of young generations to study and research in the field of chemistry. Pakistan House firmly believes that together with civil society, the OPCW can contribute toward promoting culture of responsibility within among students and policy makers. This soft safety and security approach will encourage the respective state parties to incorporate the importance of non-proliferation and dangers relating to the misuse of chemical material. The multipronged approach to engage educational institutions and policy makers will open a new channel of communication.

Ladies and Gentlemen, OPCW's achievements and success in just seventeen years has created the need to introduce much needed idea of partnership between state & non-state parties. It is no longer a desire; rather, a requirement that in the end would help promote significance of the CWC discourse. This is exactly the initiative which Pakistan House supports and seeks to achieve through working-partnerships with other members of civil society organizations.

As an independent, non-partisan and non-political organization, Pakistan House has been contributing to an on-going discourse on implementing a coherent international non-proliferation regime, which must not impede the peaceful uses of chemistry, especially in the fields of research and development (R&D). This futuristic vision will only enhance the capacity and comprehension of emerging scientists and policy makers. A strict legal system to control and follow will only serve half of the purpose of a monitoring system. Therefore, promoting cultures of responsibility and outreach are crucial to further the soft and security approach.

Let me take this opportunity and reaffirm that the platform of Pakistan House is available to further the noble cause of OPCW/CWC and we look forward to participate in the on-going research projects and to help initiate new ones.

Let me conclude by saying that nothing is more positive than sustaining the success. I believe OPCW and CWC are on the way to that sustainability. The right to learn advance knowledge should not be hindered in all fields including chemistry.

I thank you for your attention, Ladies and Gentlemen! And I request that this statement be made part of the final CSP record.