

**Dr. Margaret Muturi**  
**Kenyatta University**  
**Nairobi, Kenya**  
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**Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons**  
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Mister Chairman, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Margaret Muturi from Kenyatta University, Kenya.

I would like to thank you for this opportunity to speak during CSP20 as a member of the academia

Mister Chairman,

The accession of Angola as the 192nd State Party to the Chemical Weapons Convention this year has been a remarkable breakthrough for Africa and the world. The number of the African countries that are members to the convention are now 52. With only two countries in Africa still remaining outside the Convention, Angola's accession shows progression towards universalization of the treaty, towards a full Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone in Africa. At this juncture I encourage Egypt and South Sudan to accede to the treaty.

Mister Chairman,

Since joining the CWC, My country Kenya has actively participated in its activities and continues to reiterate its support by fulfilling the mandates and goals of the Convention; by ensuring peaceful uses of chemicals and preventing production and use of chemical weapons. Although Kenya has no chemical weapons and does not intend to produce, stockpile, or use such weapons, Kenya recognizes the need to enforce strong legislation, human capacity building, and the necessary infrastructure so as to meet her conventional obligations and ensure the safety and security of her people.

Mister Chairman,

Out of the 52 African Member States to the Convention, 19 have already completed their administrative frameworks on the global law. However, Kenya is among some of the 23 countries that have no legislation, making it difficult to guard against the misuse of the chemicals. Kenya being a transit route for five countries; Uganda, South Sudan, Somalia, Burundi, and Rwanda, is more vulnerable especially to non state actors. In this regard there is urgent need for legislation to control the movement of chemicals across the borders.

Mr Chairman,

Kenya has made some progress through a number of processes including initiating a Chemical Weapons Control Bill. In addition, the Kenyan program on Chemical Safety and Security, spear-headed by the Polish International Center for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS) is evidence of this progress by creating awareness among the stakeholders.

I would like to underscore the fact that the implementation of article VII has been slow and unpredictable. The majority of Kenyans are not aware of the harmful use of chemicals and the urgent need for legislation to guard against their misuse. The country is aware of the fact that chemicals such ammonium sulfate, widely used as fertilizer, have also been misused by terrorists to make home-made bombs. It is critically important to raise awareness among the Kenyan population and lobby the government through civil society groups.

The complementary nature of the OPCW and Kenyan civil society's activities in promoting international peace and security through disarmament and non-proliferation should enable us to embark on mutually reinforcing actions, for example, in promoting public awareness and for the enactment of domestic laws. It is my hope that through the continued cooperation between the OPCW and African States Parties, we can together achieve the continent's universality and national implementation goals.

Thank you for your attention, and I request that this statement be made part of the final CSP record.