The Conference of the States Parties,

Stressing the need to adopt the programme and budget of the OPCW closer to the budget year to which the decision relates,

Hereby:

Decides that, starting in 2002, its regular sessions shall take place in the second half of each calendar year;

Requests the Secretariat to make appropriate arrangements to ensure the implementation of this decision; and

Further requests the Director-General to notify States Parties of the date available for its regular session in the second half of 2002. However, should substantial additional costs be associated with the timing of the Conference in the second half of that year, the Conference decides that the dates for its regular session in 2002 would remain as previously determined.