

STATEMENT BY H.E. ROSE M. MAKENA, AMBASSADOR OF KENYA TO THE NETHERLANDS DURING THE THIRD REVIEW CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES, 8TH TO 19TH APRIL, 2013

Your Excellency, Mr. Chairperson of the Third Review Conference,

Your Excellency, Mr. Secretary-General of the United Nations,

Your Excellency, Mr. Director-General to the OPCW

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Allow me on behalf of my delegation, to congratulate and warmly welcome you Mr. Chairperson of the Third Review Conference of States Parties. I am confident that with your vast multilateral expertise you will be able to guide our deliberations to a successful conclusion. May I reassure you of the support and cooperation of my delegation.

Mr. Chairperson,

2. I also welcome the Statement delivered by the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki Moon, his presence has give the much needed impetus to the unique existing and essential relationship between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition for Chemical Weapons (OPCW). As such we recall and reiterate the importance of the Relationship Agreement between these two Organisations. Further, I also commend and express our gratitude to the Director-General of the OPCW, Mr. Ahmet Uzumcu, for the presentation of his comprehensive report on the activities of the Organisation.

Mr. Chairperson,

3. This delegation associates itself with the statements made on behalf of the Africa Group by H.E. Sirajuddin H. Yousif, Ambassador of Sudan and that of the Non-Aligned Movement and China delivered by H.E. M. M. Akhondzadeh, Deputy Minister for International Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Mr. Chairperson,

4. Kenya commends and extends our appreciation to the Chairperson of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) for the preparation of the Third Review Conference, H.E. Nassima Baghli, Ambassador of Algeria, for her outstanding work and most importantly for the exemplary negotiations skills that has provided this crucial Conference an almost consensual working document as the basis of our work ahead. To this end, Kenya would fully and strongly support an outcome of one document as it has been presented to us for our consideration by the OEWG Chairperson in two parts; Part A the Political Statement and Part B the text of the Review Report. This has presented us with an opportunity to further engrave in the successes of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) as a platform where consensus as been the traditional cornerstone, as such we would urge States Parties to bear this in mind during our deliberations.
5. We stress that a balanced outcome of this Third Review Conference to the current and future work of the Chemical Weapons Convention is crucial to its full and effective implementation. In view of this, we reiterate our positions clearly articulated in our previous statements delivered during the Executive Council and Conference of States Parties.
6. While reiterating and recalling our previous positions on all provisions of the Convention, we also call upon and urge States Parties at this Conference to maintain their focus primarily on practical recommendations and outcomes that would effectively in a full and non-discriminatory manner continue to enhance the commitment that upholds all the objectives of the Convention.

Mr. Chairperson,

7. Kenya continues to support and reiterate the importance of the Programme for Africa by the Technical Secretariat. It would be vital for the Third Review Conference to focus as well on its fundamental nature with regards to fully and effectively implementing as well as benefiting from the Convention by the African States Parties as it brings to light some of the pertinent realities that challenge the developments of their national authorities and chemical industries capacities.
8. My delegation, stress the need for solid recommendations of this Conference with regards to Articles X and XI to effectively capture action-oriented outcomes. It is important to highlight the Decisions adopted by States Parties to firm up the foundation required as a contribution to the implementation of the Convention.

The outcomes of these Decisions are clearly reflected by the various activities conducted by the Technical Secretariat in various States Parties which are very pertinent and continue to enhance the capacities of developing countries specifically in areas of Assistance and Protection from Chemical Incidents, Misuse of Chemicals and/or Chemical Weapons, as well as the economic and technology development.

9. However, it is equally essential for my delegation for these practical recommendations put forth are done so with much objectivity and fairness – such as further developing and effectively utilizing existing resource centres. Building capacity is a process and once a foundation is established, the necessary building blocks have to be further developed and supported in order for States Parties to fully, effectively and in a non-discriminatory manner implement the Convention, this of course cannot be ably achieved if Article VII is not completely realized.

Mr. Chairperson,

10. My delegation, calls upon all States Parties to strongly support the recommendations put forth on Universality. Kenya is known for her articulation on the importance of maintaining International Peace and Security as such; we would fully support proposals that would call on all States Parties to fully implement the Decision on Universality. This implementation process would continue to facilitate the OPCW contributions towards the global efforts in enhancing International Peace and Security which is the foundation stone for democratic governance and vital in confronting the global challenges of our time, as well as necessary for promoting sustainable development.
11. While the OPCW is not an anti-terrorism organisation, Kenya, in this regard, acknowledges its pivotal role towards contributing to the global efforts against terrorism. One such way has been through the EC Decision of 2001 (*EC-XXVII/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2001*) which established the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism (OEWG-T). We believe that this Conference requires to fully recognizing the importance of effectively implementing this Decision and enhancing the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism as an action-oriented platform.
12. Finally, Mr. Chairperson I thank you for your kind attention and request that this statement be circulated as an official document of the Third Review Conference.