Mr Chairperson,

China has always maintained that international cooperation is an important pillar of the Convention. We attach great importance to it and take an active part in ensuring the full and effective implementation of Article XI of the Convention.

China has taken note of the report from the Secretariat on the implementation of the decision adopted at the Sixteenth Session of the Conference. While fully acknowledging the efforts and progress made by States Parties and the Secretariat over the past two years, we have noticed that in this area the vast number of developing countries have many practical needs and what we have done so far still fall short of meeting these needs. China wishes to propose measures in the following areas to effectively strengthen international cooperation.

Firstly, underscore the relevance of international cooperation to the full realisation of the object and purpose of the Convention, increase input in this area, and support States Parties in their economic and technological development in the field of chemistry and their trade and cooperation for peaceful purposes in chemical industry.

Secondly, ensure that activities of international cooperation incline towards developing countries and contribute to tangible benefits for developing countries through progress in chemical industry.

Thirdly, act without delay to deliberate and formulate a feasible and effective plan of action to ensure the effective implementation of Article XI of the Convention.

The Chinese delegation requests that this statement be issued as an official document of the session.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.