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IRAN

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR KAZEM GHARIB ABADI
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO
THE OPCW ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE NON-ALIGNED
MOVEMENT THAT ARE STATES PARTIES TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS
CONVENTION AND CHINA
AT THE SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairperson,

1. On behalf of the Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement that are States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter NAM CWC States Parties) and China, I would like to welcome you back, Ambassador Olexandr Horin of Ukraine, as Chairperson of the Executive Council and express my confidence in your able leadership to steer this session of the Council to a successful conclusion. Since it is the last session of the Executive Council under your chairmanship, we wish to take the opportunity to express our gratitude to you for all your efforts that together with your skills and experiences have helped resolve important issues.
2. The NAM CWC States Parties and China while committed to the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Convention which is essential for the realisation of the objectives and purposes of the Convention, acknowledge that the implementation of the Convention will contribute to the international and regional peace and security.
3. Noting with serious concern that the final extended deadline for the destruction of chemical weapons was not met by certain possessor States Parties, the NAM CWC States Parties and China stress that the destruction of chemical weapons is the fundamental and top priority of the Organisation and urge all possessor States Parties to take every necessary measure with a view to ensuring their compliance with the Convention. We also wish to emphasise the determination expressed by the Third Review Conference that the destruction of all categories of chemical weapons, namely old chemical weapons, abandoned chemical weapons and chemical weapons stockpiles shall be completed in the shortest time possible in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and its Annex on Implementation and Verification, and with the full application of the relevant decisions that have been taken.
4. The NAM CWC States Parties and China attach great importance to the universality of the Convention and in this context hereby strongly call on the other States not Party to the Convention to accede to it without further delay and precondition. We also



emphasise that States that remain outside the Convention should not be able to take advantage of any of the benefits it offers to the States Parties.

5. We welcome the decisions of the Executive Council at its meetings with respect to the elimination and destruction of Syrian chemical weapons and the cooperation of the Syrian Arab Republic regarding the implementation of the relevant Executive Council decisions towards the elimination of its chemical weapons. The NAM CWC States Parties and China recognise the independent role of the OPCW and its verification measures in carrying out its professional functions and call upon all the States Parties in a position to do so to provide voluntary contributions to the relevant verification and destruction trust funds in order to assist the implementation of these decisions.
6. While noting the Note of the Director-General (NV/ODG/OCS/186956, dated 14 January 2014), the NAM CWC States Parties and China call upon all the States Parties to strictly comply with the CWC regime for the protection of confidential information in order to prevent any breach of relevant provisions and regulations with regard to the confidentiality.
7. The NAM CWC States Parties and China attach great importance to the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of Article XI. In this context, we underline that the following elements should be taken into consideration by the policy making organs of the Organisation:
 - (a) Developing an action plan for full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of Article XI. In this context, a proposal was made by the NAM CWC States Parties and China to the Third Review Conference which is under consideration in Article XI consultations;
 - (b) Allocation of adequate financial and human resources for the implementation of Article XI related programmes and initiatives within the Technical Secretariat;
 - (c) Adopting necessary actions or decisions to implement the relevant recommendations of the Third Review Conference regarding Article XI;
 - (d) Promotion of international cooperation and removal of any discriminatory restrictions such as unilateral sanctions against other States Parties that are contrary to the letter and spirit of the Convention and affect the Convention's long-term viability and have an adverse impact on the trust existing among the States Parties.
8. In the context of the implementation of Article VII, the NAM CWC States Parties and China encourage all the States Parties and the Technical Secretariat to continue to provide meaningful assistance and technical support to the States Parties, at their request, and to come up with appropriate and tailored solutions to overcome the practical difficulties and resource constraints encountered by individual States Parties in carrying out their national implementation measures. The NAM CWC States Parties and China also stress that national legislations should be in line with the provisions of the Convention and as comprehensive as possible to monitor the chemical activities in a way that provisions of the Convention are implemented and the obligations of the Member States are met.

9. On the follow-up of the Third Review Conference recommendations, the NAM CWC States Parties and China believe that the transparent, holistic and balanced approach shall prevail for implementation of these recommendations. We believe that there should be a mechanism to consider all the recommendations and put forward practical proposals to the policy-making organs for their implementation. In this context, selective approaches shall be prevented.
10. The NAM CWC States Parties and China welcome the continued implementation of the Programme for Africa by the Technical Secretariat and support developing of new actions and projects in order to strengthen the Programme.
11. While the NAM CWC States Parties and China acknowledge the contribution of the OPCW to global anti-terrorism efforts through full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention, bearing in mind that the OPCW is not an anti-terrorism organisation, we reaffirm that its primary objective is the total destruction of chemical weapons. We also look forward to sustained efforts and contribution towards global anti-terrorism by the OPCW.
12. On the issues related to the Host Country Committee, while noting the goodwill on the part of the Host Country to continue bilateral consultations to make progress on outstanding issues, the NAM CWC States Parties and China take note of the issues expressed during the sessions of Executive Council deliberations and look forward to receiving the outcomes of consultations of the Host Country Committee on these issues with a view to be addressed.

Mr Chairperson,

In conclusion, I would like to request that this statement be issued as an official document of the Seventy-Fifth Session of the Executive Council.

Thank you.

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