Mr Chairman,

The Eastern Republic of Uruguay welcomes the initial progress in the implementation of the decisions EC-M-33/DEC.1 and EC-M-34/DEC.1, which constitute an excellent example of the will of the States Parties to achieve the objectives of the Convention, as well as its universality.

Nevertheless, my delegation wishes to express its concern regarding the full compliance with the above-mentioned decisions, which has required great efforts by the Organisation and the Member States to implement. In this regard, the deadlines established for the achievement of the destruction goals must be met without delay and with the utmost diligence. It is evident to this delegation that the only two movements of chemical materials took place as the dates of the two previous meetings of the Executive Council were approaching. Let us hope that this fact is a coincidence, and not a consequence.

My delegation hopes that the timetable to complete the agreed process for the destruction of chemical weapons will be adhered to; this must be a goal in itself, rather than an excuse to attain other goals. It is with this belief that Uruguay acceded to and remains in the Convention.

I would like to request that this statement be considered as an official document.

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