



Statement

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First Secretary**

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to the United Nations**

on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

Thematic debate “Other Weapons of Mass Destruction”

**First Committee
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Mr. Chairman,

1. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.
2. NAM reiterates its continued concern over the difficult and complex situation in the field of disarmament and international security.
3. NAM State Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons (CWC) note with satisfaction the effective operation of the CWC as the only comprehensive multilateral treaty banning an entire category of WMD, providing for a verification system and promoting the use of chemicals for peaceful purposes. They urge all possessor State Parties to take every necessary measure to ensure their compliance with their “Detailed plan for the destruction of Chemical Weapons remaining after the final extended destruction deadline of 29 April 2012”, in the shortest time possible, in order to uphold the credibility and integrity of the Convention. In this regard, as a new development, NAM welcomes the completion of the full destruction of Russian chemical weapons as confirmed by the OPCW Director General (EC-86/DG.31). NAM States Parties call for the promotion of international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention without any discrimination and restriction. In this regard, they attach high importance to the adoption of a Plan of Action on Article XI on economic and technological development for the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all the provisions of Article XI.
4. With regard to the future priorities of the Organisation, the NAM CWC States Parties believe that the discussions need to be brought within the parameters of the policy-making organs (PMOs) guided and driven by States Parties and the main focus of the Organisation should remain the complete elimination of all categories of chemical weapons, with a strong belief that all pillars of the Convention would be treated in a balanced manner.
5. NAM State Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) consider that the Convention represents an important component of the international legal architecture related to weapons of mass destruction. They recognize that the lack of a verification system continues to pose a challenge to the effectiveness of the Convention.

They call for the resumption of the multilateral negotiations to conclude a non-discriminatory legally binding Protocol, dealing with all Articles of the Convention, in a balanced and comprehensive manner to sustainably strengthen the Convention, including through verification measures. They urge the party rejecting negotiations to reconsider its policy. They further emphasize the need for enhancing, without restrictions, international cooperation and assistance and exchanges in toxins, biological agents, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes without any discrimination, in conformity with the Convention.

6. NAM calls upon all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, and urges them to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and materials and technologies related to their manufacture.
7. In the context of resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008), 1977 (2011), 2310 (2016) and 2325 (2016) adopted by the Security Council in the areas covered by multilateral WMD treaties, NAM underlines the need to ensure that any action by the Security Council does not undermine the UN Charter, existing multilateral treaties on weapons of mass destruction, and international Organizations established in this regard, as well as the functions and power and role of the General Assembly. NAM cautions against the continuing practice of the Security Council to utilize its authority to define the legislative requirements for Member States in implementing its decisions. In this regard, NAM stresses that the issue of acquisition of weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors should be addressed in an inclusive nondiscriminatory manner by the General Assembly, taking into account the views of all Member States. The Movement also underlines that the total elimination of all WMD represents an important guarantee that such weapons will not be acquired by non-State actors.
8. The Movement reaffirms the need to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction and therefore supports the necessity of monitoring the situation and triggering international action as required. In this regard, Movement welcomes the adoption of the General Assembly Resolution 69/27 entitled "Prohibition of the

development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament”.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.