



**XVI Ministerial Conference and
Commemorative Meeting
of the Non-Aligned Movement**

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prejudice to the inalienable right of its member States to research, develop and use for peaceful purposes of nuclear sciences, in all its aspects.

175. The Ministers *emphasizing* the importance of the positive role played by the Non-Aligned Members in the IAEA, *stressed* the necessity that all members of the IAEA strictly observe its Statute. They *stressed* that any undue pressure or interference in the Agency's activities, especially its verification process, which could jeopardize the efficiency and credibility of the Agency, should be avoided. They recognised that the IAEA is the sole competent authority for verification of compliance with the obligations under the respective safeguard agreements of the Member States. They also *reaffirmed* that a clear distinction has to be made between the legal obligations of Member States under their respective safeguards agreements and their voluntary undertakings, in order to ensure that such voluntary undertakings are not turned into legal safeguards obligations.

176. The Ministers *reaffirmed* the inviolability of peaceful nuclear activities and that any attack or threat of attack against peaceful nuclear facilities –operational or under construction- poses a great danger to human beings and the environment, and constitutes a grave violation of international law, principles and purposes of the UN Charter and regulations of the IAEA. They recognised the urgent need for a comprehensive multilaterally negotiated instrument prohibiting attacks or threat of attacks on nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

177. The Ministers *affirmed* the need to strengthen the Radiological Safety and Protection Systems at facilities utilising radioactive materials as well as at radioactive waste management facilities, including the safe transportation of these materials. They *reaffirmed* the need to strengthen existing international regulations relating to safety and security of transportation of such materials. The Ministers noted efforts of the IAEA in this regard including convening an “International Conference on the safe and secure transport of radioactive material: The next fifty years- creating a safe, secure and sustainable framework” in Vienna from the 17th to the 21st of October 2011. While *reiterating* the need to take appropriate measures to prevent any dumping of nuclear or radioactive wastes, they called for effective implementation of the Code of Practice on the International Transboundary Movement of Radioactive Waste of the IAEA as a means of enhancing the protection of all States from the dumping of radioactive wastes on their territories.

178. The Ministers *stressed* that the issue of proliferation should be resolved through political and diplomatic means, and that measures and initiatives taken in this regard should be within the framework of international law; relevant conventions; the UN Charter, and should contribute to the promotion of international peace, security and stability.

179. The Ministers of the NAM States Parties to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC) *reaffirmed* that the possibility of any use of bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins as weapons should be completely excluded, and the conviction that such use would be repugnant to the conscience of humankind. They recognised the particular importance of strengthening the Convention through multilateral negotiations for a legally binding Protocol and universal adherence to the Convention. They *reiterated* their call to promote international cooperation for peaceful purposes, including scientific-technical exchange, and to adopt concrete actions in this regard such as those contained in the Plan of Action to implement the Article X submitted by the NAM States Parties at the Sixth Review Conference, and the additional NAM States Parties' proposal on a mechanism for the full implementation of Article X of the Convention presented more recently. They underlined the importance to maintain close coordination among the NAM States Parties to the Convention and highlighted that the Convention on Biological and Toxin Weapons forms a whole and that, although it is possible to consider certain

aspects separately, it is critical to deal with all of the issues interrelated to this Convention in a balanced and comprehensive manner.

180. The Ministers of the NAM States Parties to the BTWC stressed the importance of the active participation by NAM States Parties to the BTWC in the Seventh BTWC Review Conference, to be held at the end of 2011, to advance their positions on this Convention, particularly those on Article X of the BTWC, especially by emphasizing the need for enhancing international cooperation, assistance and exchange in biological sciences and technology for peaceful purposes. They further encouraged the BTWC States Parties to provide information, as set forth in paragraph 54 of the Final Document of the Sixth BTWC Review Conference, on how Article X of the BTWC on the issue of international assistance and cooperation is being implemented.

181. The Ministers of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) *invited* all States that have not yet signed or ratified the Convention to do so as soon as possible with a view to its universality. They *reaffirmed* that the effective contribution of the Convention to international and regional peace and security can be enhanced through its full implementation. The Ministers *reaffirmed* the importance of international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Chemical Weapons Convention. They *reiterated* their call on the developed countries to promote international cooperation for the benefit of States Parties through the transfer of technology, material and equipment for peaceful purposes in the chemical field and the removal of all and any discriminatory restrictions that are contrary to the letter and spirit of the Convention. They recalled that the full, balanced, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Convention in particular economic and technical development through international cooperation, is fundamental to the achievement of its object and purpose. While *expressing* their serious concern on the recent indications by certain possessor states parties that they will not meet their obligations regarding the deadlines for the total elimination of chemical weapons and that 36.28% of chemical weapons still remained to be destroyed as of 31st January 2011, they called upon States having declared possession of chemical weapons to ensure full and complete compliance with the final extended deadline (29th of April 2012) for the destruction of their chemical weapons, in order to uphold the credibility and integrity of the Convention. They *stressed* that the obligation and responsibility for the destruction of chemical weapons lies solely with the possessor States Parties and that fulfilment of this obligation is fundamental to achieve the object and purpose of the Convention. In this regard, they *called on* the relevant possessor States Parties to intensify the rate of destruction of their chemical weapon stockpiles by taking every necessary measure to meet their final extended deadlines for the destruction of their chemical weapons in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

182. The Ministers of the States Parties to the CWC *reaffirmed* that the implementation of the Article X of the CWC on assistance and protection against chemical weapons make a significant contribution to countering the threats of use of chemical weapons. They *stressed* the importance of achieving and maintaining a high level of readiness of the OPCW to provide timely and needed assistance and protection against use or threat of use of chemical weapons, including assistance to the victims of chemical weapons.

183. The Ministers of the States Parties to the CWC, while paying due respect to the chemical weapons victims and their families, declare their firm conviction that international support to provide special care and assistance to all victims suffering the effects of exposure to chemical weapons is an urgent humanitarian need and that the States Parties to the Convention as well as the OPCW should pay urgent attention to meeting these needs including through the possible establishment of an international support network.

184. The Ministers once again condemned the Israeli military aggression against the Gaza Strip in 2009 and the occupying power's indiscriminate shelling and bombing of Palestinian civilian areas, and expressed their grave concern over the reported use in civilian areas of harmful and potentially fatal incendiary weapons, such as white phosphorous. In this regard, they reiterated their call for a thorough investigation of this serious matter by relevant bodies under the appropriate international conventions and agreements.

185. The Ministers regretted unsubstantiated allegations of non-compliance with relevant instruments on weapons of mass destruction and *called on* States Parties to such instruments that make such allegations to follow procedures set out in those instruments and to provide necessary substantiation for their allegations. They called upon all States parties to the respective international instruments to implement fully and in a transparent manner all their obligations under these instruments.

186. The Ministers *expressed* their satisfaction with the consensus among States on measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction. They *welcomed* the adoption by consensus of the General Assembly Resolution 65/62 entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction" and underlined the need for this threat to humanity to be addressed within the UN framework and through international co-operation. While *stressing* that the most effective way of preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction is through the total elimination of such weapons, they *emphasized* that progress was urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to help maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism. They called upon all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. They also *urged* all Member States 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.

187. While *noting* the adoption of resolution 1540 (2004), resolution 1673 (2006) and resolution 1810 (2008) by the Security Council, the Ministers underlined the need to ensure that any action by the Security Council does not undermine the UN Charter and existing multilateral treaties on weapons of mass destruction and of international Organisations established in this regard, as well as the role of the General Assembly. They further cautioned against the continuing practice of the Security Council to utilize its authority to define the legislative requirements for Member States in implementing Security Council decisions. In this regard, the Ministers *stressed* the importance of the issue of non-state actors acquiring weapons of mass destruction to be addressed in an inclusive manner by the General Assembly, *taking into account* the views of all Member States.

188. Mindful of the threat posed to humankind by the existing weapons of mass destruction particularly Nuclear Weapons and underlining the need for the total elimination of such weapons, the Ministers *reaffirmed* the need to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction and therefore *supported* the necessity of monitoring the situation and triggering international action as required.

189. The Ministers *reaffirmed* the sovereign right of States to acquire, manufacture, export, import and retain conventional arms for their self-defence and security needs. They *expressed* their concern about unilateral coercive measures and *emphasized* that no undue restriction should be placed on the transfer of such arms.

190. The Ministers *recognised* the significant imbalance in the production, possession and trade in conventional weapons between the industrialized and the