Mr. Chairman,

1. I am honored to speak on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

2. NAM States 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 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 the United States, as the only remaining State Party, to take every necessary measure to ensure its compliance with the "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.

3. They express deep regret for the non-adoption of the report of the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of States Parties to Review the Operation of the Convention owing to lack of consensus and politicization on some issues. They also 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. For the benefit of State Parties, the developed countries should transfer technology, material and equipment for peaceful purposes in the chemical field, and remove all restrictions that are contrary to the letter and spirit of the Convention.

4. NAM States Parties to the CWC invite all States that have not yet signed or ratified the Convention to do so as soon as possible. The recent accession of the State of Palestine, as the 193rd State Party, is a significant step towards achieving Convention’s universality.

5. The use of chemical weapons and toxic chemicals, as weapons anywhere by anyone under any circumstances is reprehensible and completely contrary to international law, particularly the provisions of the Convention. Those responsible for the use of chemical weapons must be held accountable.
6. NAM reiterates its condemnation of Israeli military aggression against Gaza Strip in 2009 and July and August 2014 and the occupying power's indiscriminate shelling and bombing of Palestinian civilian areas. Expressing grave concern over the reported use in civilian areas of harmful and potentially fatal incendiary weapons, such as white phosphorous, NAM reiterates its call for a thorough investigation of this serious matter by relevant bodies under the appropriate international conventions and agreements.

7. International support to provide special care and assistance to all victims suffering exposure to chemical weapons is an urgent humanitarian need. The States Parties to the Convention as well as the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) should pay attention to meeting those needs.

8. NAM State Parties to the CWC attach high importance to OPCW and emphasize the importance of consensus. OPCW should be strengthened to deal with ongoing and future challenges within the confines of the CWC, without distorting the OPCW's mandate that could render it susceptible to political maneuvering.

Mr. Chairman,

9. NAM States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) consider that the Convention represents an important component of the international legal architecture related to WMD. They recognize that the lack of a verification system continues to pose challenge to effectiveness of the Convention. They call for resumption of 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.

10. They further emphasize the need for enhancing, without restrictions, international cooperation, assistance and exchanges in toxins, biological agents, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes without any discrimination, in conformity with the Convention.

11. In the context of UN Security Council resolutions 1540 (2004) and its subsequent resolutions, NAM underlines the need to ensure that any actions by the Security Council do not undermine the UN Charter, existing multilateral treaties on WMD, and international Organizations established in this regard, as well as the functions, power and role of the General Assembly. NAM cautions against the continuing practice of the Security Council to utilize its authority to define legislative requirements for Member States in implementing its decisions. In this regard, NAM stresses that the issue of acquisition of WMD by non-State actors should be addressed in an inclusive and non-discriminatory manner by the GA, taking into account views of all Member States.

12. In closing, NAM reaffirms the need to prevent emergence of new types of WMD, and therefore, supports the necessity of monitoring the situation and triggering international action as required. In this regard, NAM welcomes the adoption of GA
Resolution 72/23 entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of WMD and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament".

Thank you.

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