



**OPCW**

**Conference of the States Parties**

Tenth Session  
7 – 11 November 2005

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**DECISION**

**FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE XI**

**The Conference of the States Parties,**

**Recalling** that at its Ninth Session it referred the matter of the full implementation of Article XI to the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”), with a view to the Council’s forwarding a proposal to it at its Tenth Session for its consideration;

**Stressing** that economic and technological development through international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”), in accordance with Article XI, is one of the core objectives of the OPCW;

**Reaffirming** the importance of the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI, and **bearing in mind** its contribution to the promotion of the Convention and of its universality;

**Recalling** that, according to Article XI of the Convention, the provisions of the Convention shall be implemented in a manner which avoids hampering the economic or technological development of States Parties, and international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, including the international exchange of scientific and technical information and chemicals and equipment for the production, processing or use of chemicals for purposes not prohibited under the Convention;

**Emphasising** that the international-cooperation programmes of the OPCW should foster economic and technological development through international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, in accordance with the provisions of Article XI, and should in particular contribute to the development of States Parties’ capacities to implement the Convention;

**Bearing in mind** the provisions on the implementation of Article XI in the report of the First Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (RC-1/5, dated 9 May 2003);

**Cognisant** of the information contained in the Note by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter “the Secretariat”) on the implementation of international-cooperation programmes under Article XI (S/502/2005, dated 14 June 2005); and



**Noting** the recommendation of Council at its Twenty-Fifth Meeting on this matter (EC-M-25/DEC.8, dated 11 November 2005);

**Hereby:**

1. **Reaffirms** its determination to promote the full implementation of Article XI as it relates, *inter alia*, to the fullest possible exchange of chemicals, equipment, and scientific and technical information on the development and application of chemistry for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, subject to the provisions of the Convention and without prejudice to the principles and applicable rules of international law;
2. **Resolves**, as a step towards the full implementation of Article XI, to foster international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities by:
  - (a) requesting the Secretariat to:
    - (i) maintain, for information purposes, lists of voluntary offers of cooperation from States Parties and of specific requests for cooperation, under the terms of Article XI;
    - (ii) foster cooperation between the OPCW and the chemical industry through the States Parties concerned;
    - (iii) develop and promote internship programmes for participants from States Parties;
    - (iv) facilitate the provision of assistance with national capacity-building in the field of chemical activities for peaceful purposes;
    - (v) continue to design, develop, enhance, and implement the OPCW's international-cooperation programmes, including with reference to the paragraph 3 below; and
    - (vi) promote, and assist with, both the attendance by experts or trainees from States Parties at courses and workshops, and the organisation of international seminars in fields relevant to the Convention;
  - (b) encouraging States Parties to:
    - (i) develop cooperation projects in areas relevant to Article XI, with the Secretariat providing support upon request;
    - (ii) exchange scientific and technical information, chemicals, and equipment for the production, processing, or use of chemicals for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, with the Secretariat providing support upon request; and

- (iii) continue to offer cooperation in terms of Article XI, either directly or through voluntary contributions to the OPCW, and without prejudice to the allocation of approved programme resources;
3. **Requests** the Secretariat to continue developing international-cooperation programmes:
- (a) that meet the needs of the States Parties for capacity-building and economic and technological development through international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, within the budgetary resources of the OPCW;
  - (b) that contribute to the effective and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention;
  - (c) that focus on the specific competencies of the OPCW;
  - (d) that avoid duplicating the efforts of other international organisations; and
  - (e) whose high quality and cost-effectiveness are ensured through continuous evaluation by the Secretariat, in consultation with the States Parties.
4. **Requests** the Director-General to continue to report on the progress of implementation of all provisions of Article XI, including international-cooperation programmes and the status of implementation referred to in subparagraph 2(e) of Article XI.
5. **Decides** to remain seized of this issue, and to further review all the requirements of Article XI, including subparagraphs 2(c) and 2(e), and **encourages** States Parties to continue to address them constructively; and
6. **Requests** the Council to keep the issue under consideration and to report on the full implementation of Article XI to the Conference at each regular annual session.