



**SECOND SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES
PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS
CONVENTION**

**STATEMENT BY
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CHAIRMAN
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MALAYSIA**

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(Please check against delivery)

**SECOND SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATE
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Mr. Chairman

Let me begin by extending my congratulations on behalf of the Malaysian Delegation on your assumption as the Chairman of the Second Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. My delegation and I are confident that with your experience and able leadership, the conference will lead to a successful conclusion.

2. We would also like to thank the Director General Ambassador Rogelio Pfirter for his statement and comprehensive remarks which I am certain, will contribute to the smooth discussions hereafter.

3. The Malaysian Delegation was present during the 52nd Session Executive Council Meeting and took note of the good work carried out by the Open Ended Working Group (OEWG). The Ambassador of the United Kingdom, H.E Lyn Parker who led the group had worked very hard and carried out a most unenviable task. The Malaysian delegation appreciates the efforts of H.E the Ambassador of the UK for his work. Let me also thank all the members for their diligence and contribution.

4. The Malaysian Delegation wishes to associate itself with the joint statement of NAM-CWC States Parties and China as delivered by H.E. Dr. Jose A. Diaz Duque, Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Environment of Cuba.

5. The first Review Conference was held in April 2003, exactly five years ago. The purpose of that Conference and this is to review the operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. The progress since then has been significant. The increase in the number of States Parties to 183 is commendable and encouraging.

Mr Chairman

6. The 10th Anniversary of the Entry into Force of the Convention which we celebrated last year is another milestone for the organisation. In this respect, we were happy to have celebrated the occasion in Malaysia as well. Credit must be made to the effective implementation of the Plan of Action on Universality. Malaysia fully supports the initiative and we would like to pay tribute to the Director General for his untiring efforts to promote Universality to all parts of the world. We hope such efforts will bring countries that are not yet States Parties to accept the Convention in the near future.

Mr. Chairman,

7. I wish to emphasise that Malaysia has shown great commitment in fulfilling her obligation as stated under Article VII of the Convention. We have tried our level best to perform our role. Within a period of 18 months following the establishment of the National Authority on 1 September 2006, we have a very comprehensive legislation to implement the Chemical Weapons Convention in Malaysia. Our Chemical Weapons Convention Act 2005 covers key areas as prescribed in the Convention. A subsidiary legislation, the Chemical Weapons Convention Regulations 2007, which was gazetted and had come into force on 1 November 2007.

8. The Malaysian National Authority benefited from the participation of OPCW officials on three occasions throughout 2007. In April last year, we conducted a programme on the "Preparation of National CWC Inspection Procedures (NIP)" as well as a training session with the OPCW. This included a mock inspection on an actual plant site. I wish to highlight that three officials from the Technical Secretariat also participated in the session. In August 2007, more than 1800 participants attended the Twelfth Asian Chemical Congress including a member of the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW. The National Authority of Malaysia took the opportunity to engage with the participants on the subject of "Chemical Security and Safety in the 21st Century" on the last day of the Congress. In December 2007, in collaboration with the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW, we had organized a Regional Conference for ASEAN States Parties

on Article X. The Malaysian Foreign Minister had officiated the Opening Ceremony along with the Deputy Director General of the OPCW. The Regional Conference also had a Static Exhibition and Display of equipment and numerous information on Chemicals as well as Nuclear and Biological.

Mr. Chairman

9. Since its inception, the Malaysian National Authority has continuously participated in Regional Meetings and Seminars. We find such avenues useful and beneficial to us and those who participated in them.

10. In adherence to the provisions laid down by the Convention, I am pleased to report that Malaysia has continuously submitted her Annual Declarations of past and anticipated activities on Scheduled Chemicals and Discrete Organic Chemicals since ratification on April 2000. It was only in 2007, that four International Inspections were conducted in Malaysia. Three inspections were carried out on our OCPF plant sites and one in our Scheduled 3 Chemical facility. All inspections had proceeded smoothly with the full cooperation of the Malaysian National Authority. I wish to highlight that the four Inspections were carried out within a period of 6 months.

11. On the subject of inspections, Malaysia would like to reiterate our support for the position taken by NAM CWC State Parties and China that consultations

on the frequency of inspection and on the OCPF site selection methodology should continue.

Mr. Chairman

12. In the past few months, Malaysia has continued her active role in implementing the Convention effectively. Allow me to brief this August Conference that the year started with the Presentation of Authority Cards for our Malaysian National Inspectors from the respective technical agencies within the National Authority. At the end of March 2008, a formal session for our National Inspectors was held. Emphasis was given on the Chemical Weapons Convention Act 2005 and the Chemical Weapons Convention Regulations 2007. Most of them have had sufficient experience on inspections which were carried out by their individual departments. Our session also touched on the declarations by industries and inspections.

13. Malaysia continues to place much importance on the implementation of Article X. A visit to the School of Military Engineers of the Malaysian Army was held in March 2008. This was to enhance the knowledge of our National Authority members on the Assistance and Protection against chemical weapons. A Practical exercise in the field was also conducted for the participants. The Engineer School also trains overseas students. We wish to highlight that the Malaysian National Authority will continue to conduct other training activities

throughout 2008. In this regard, we will keep the OPCW informed of these developments.

Mr. Chairman

14. Malaysia appreciates the importance of cooperation with other States Parties. We have offered our services as we are of the opinion that we can contribute positively based on our own experience as well as the availability of facilities in Malaysia. We have also taken advantage of the numerous Training and Courses offered to all States Parties as we feel that such occasions are avenues for us to share our knowledge and experience as well as bringing home new information. We hope to continue participating in the numerous training and courses offered to us in order to enhance our capacity building in Malaysia.

15. Close cooperation among member countries could also minimize the diversion of toxic chemicals for non peaceful purposes. The issue of transfer of chemicals can be complex as it requires close monitoring. The Malaysian Royal Customs Academy (AKMAL) in collaboration with the National Authority will conduct training on the Import and Export for Scheduled Chemicals in the ASEAN Region as requested by the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW. Preparations are ongoing and the first batch of customs officers will be attending the training later in August 2008.

Mr. Chairman

16. Finally, Malaysia would like to express her concern of the slow pace of destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles in the countries concerned. In this respect, Malaysia hopes that these countries will adhere to the deadline to destroy their stockpiles.

17. Let me conclude by saying that we are fully committed to the Convention and we will continue to work with other States Parties towards its effective implementation. It is our fervent hope that the Second Review Conference will proceed and achieve its desired purpose towards enhancing the effectiveness of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Thank you

Malaysian National Authority
PUTRAJAYA, MALAYSIA
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