

Conference of the States Parties

Fifteenth Session
29 November – 3 December 2010

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REPORT OF THE FIFTEENTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES 29 NOVEMBER – 3 DECEMBER 2010

1. AGENDA ITEM ONE – Opening of the session

- 1.1 The Fifteenth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (hereinafter "the Conference") was opened at 10:38 on 29 November 2010 by the Chairperson of the Fourteenth Session of the Conference, Ambassador Vaidotas Verba of Lithuania. The Conference **received** a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
- 1.2 The following 127 States Parties participated in the Fifteenth Session: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
- 1.3 In accordance with Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference, the following signatory State participated in this session of the Conference as an observer: Israel.
- 1.4 In accordance with Rules 31 and 32 of these Rules of Procedure, and pursuant to a decision of the Conference on the matter (C-15/DEC.1, dated 29 November 2010), 10 international organisations, specialised agencies, and other international bodies attended the Fifteenth Session.

1.5 The Conference **approved** the participation of 20 non-governmental organisations in its Fifteenth Session (C-15/DEC.2, dated 29 November 2010).

2. AGENDA ITEM TWO – Election of the Chairperson

In accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference, by acclamation, **elected** as its Chairperson Ambassador Julio Roberto Palomo Silva of Guatemala, who shall hold office until his successor is elected at the next regular session of the Conference.

3. AGENDA ITEM THREE – Election of Vice-Chairpersons and other officers

- 3.1 In accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference **elected** representatives of the following 10 States Parties as Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference, to hold office until their successors are elected at its next regular session: Bolivia, Chile, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Ukraine, and United States of America.
- 3.2 Also in accordance with Rules 34 and 35 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference **elected**, as Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole, Ambassador Vaidotas Verba of Lithuania, who shall hold office until a new Chairperson is elected at the next regular session of the Conference.

4. AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Adoption of the agenda

- 4.1 The provisional agenda for the Fifteenth Session was circulated under cover of C-15/1, dated 1 July 2010.
- 4.2 The Conference **approved** the following agenda for its Fifteenth Session:

AGENDA ITEM ONE - Opening of the session

AGENDA ITEM TWO – Election of the Chairperson

AGENDA ITEM THREE – Election of Vice-Chairpersons and other officers

AGENDA ITEM FOUR – Adoption of the agenda

AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Organisation of work and establishment of subsidiary bodies

AGENDA ITEM SIX – Appointment of the Credentials Committee

AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Statement by the Director-General

AGENDA ITEM EIGHT - General debate

AGENDA ITEM NINE – Status of implementation of the Convention

AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2009

AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Annual Report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities for the period from 18 July 2009 to 2 July 2010

AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Election of Member States to membership in the Executive Council

AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2011, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget

AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN - Scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties

AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – External Auditor's report on the audited financial statements of the OPCW for 2009

AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Administrative and financial matters

AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities

AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Ensuring the universality of the Convention

AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN - The OPCW Programme for Africa

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY - Reports of subsidiary bodies

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Any other business

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO – Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties

AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE - Closure

5. AGENDA ITEM FIVE – Organisation of work and establishment of subsidiary bodies

The Conference **considered** and **adopted** the recommendations of the General Committee that were reported to it in accordance with Rule 43(b) of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference.

6. AGENDA ITEM SIX – Appointment of the Credentials Committee

In accordance with Rule 27 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference, on the recommendation of its Chairperson, **appointed** the following 10 members of the Credentials Committee to hold office until new members are appointed at the next regular session of the Conference: Belgium, Colombia, Costa Rica, Greece, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Morocco, Poland, Sri Lanka, and Ukraine.

7. AGENDA ITEM SEVEN – Statement by the Director-General

The Conference **noted** the opening statement by the Director-General (C-15/DG.14, dated 29 November 2010).

8. AGENDA ITEM EIGHT – General debate

The following delegations made statements during the general debate: Belgium (on behalf of the European Union and associated countries), Cuba (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China), South Africa (on behalf of the African Group), Iran (Islamic Republic of), India, Russian Federation, China, Mexico, Brazil, Switzerland, Japan, New Zealand, Ukraine, Israel (observer), Serbia, Yemen, Canada, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, United States of America, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Algeria, Iraq, Turkey, Peru, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Thailand, Chile, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Argentina, Malaysia, San Marino, Guatemala, United Arab Emirates, Australia, Bolivia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Qatar, Singapore, Nigeria, Kenya, Tunisia, Cameroon, Ecuador (on behalf of GRULAC), Colombia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Sudan.

9. AGENDA ITEM NINE – Status of implementation of the Convention

The Conference **stressed** that all issues related to implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter "the Convention") should be dealt with faithfully in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.

Subitem 9(a): Progress report on the implementation of the plan of action regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations

- 9.1 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Fourteenth Session regarding the implementation of Article VII obligations (C-14/DEC.12, dated 4 December 2009), the Conference **considered** and **noted** the Note by the Director-General entitled "Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 30 July 2010: Article VII(1)(a) to (c) and Other Obligations" (C-15/DG.9, dated 27 October 2010); the Note by the Director-General entitled "Status of Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 30 July 2010: Further Obligations Pursuant to Article VII" (C-15/DG.10, dated 27 October 2010); and the Note by the Director-General entitled "Progress Regarding Legislative and Regulatory Implementation of Article VII of the Chemical Weapons Convention (Including Assistance Provided) as at 30 July 2010" (C-15/DG.11, dated 27 October 2010).
- 9.2 The Conference **stressed** that issues in this regard should be dealt with, in accordance with the constitutional processes of States Parties, faithfully in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.
 - Subitem 9(b): Implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat in 2009
- 9.3 The Conference **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the implementation of the regime governing the handling of confidential information by the Technical Secretariat (hereinafter "the Secretariat") in 2009 (EC-59/DG.6 C-15/DG.1, dated 27 January 2010).

9.4 The Conference **stressed** that issues in this regard should be dealt with faithfully in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, including the Annex on the Protection of Confidential Information.

Subitem 9(c): Progress made in meeting revised deadlines for the destruction of chemical weapons

- 9.5 Pursuant to a decision by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (paragraph 9.12(b) of C-11/5, dated 8 December 2006), the Conference **considered** and **noted** a report by the Director-General on the progress made by those States Parties that have been granted extensions of deadlines for the destruction of their Category 1 chemical weapons (C-15/DG.13, dated 11 November 2010).
- 9.6 The Conference **reaffirmed** the obligation of possessor States Parties to destroy their chemical weapons within the extended deadlines, in accordance with the relevant decisions by the Conference at its Eleventh Session, and to that end **emphasised** the timely commencement of destruction activities at all chemical weapons destruction facilities.
- 9.7 Pursuant to the decisions by the Conference at its Eleventh Session on the final extended deadline, the Conference **noted with concern** that the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 may not be fully met. While noting that significant progress has been made, the Conference **also noted** that 37.17% of chemical weapons stockpiles remain to be destroyed as of 31 October 2010. In this regard, the Conference **urged** all possessor States Parties to take every necessary measure with a view to ensuring their compliance with the final extended destruction deadline.
- 9.8 The Conference **stressed** in this regard that no action should be undertaken that would undermine the Convention or that would raise questions about the commitment of States Parties, or lead to the rewriting of or reinterpreting of Convention's provisions.
- 9.9 The Conference **further stressed** that issues in this regard should be dealt with faithfully in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.
- 9.10 In this context, the Conference **encouraged** the Chairperson of the Executive Council (hereinafter "the Council") to continue the informal consultations on how and when to initiate the discussion by the Council on issues related to meeting the final extended deadline for the destruction of chemical weapons as mandated by the Council at its Fifty-Eighth Session.

Subitem 9(d): Extension of deadlines for the destruction of Category 1 chemical weapons stockpiles

- 9.11 The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the extension of the intermediate deadlines for the destruction by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya of its Category 1 chemical weapons (C-15/DEC.3, dated 30 November 2010).
- 9.12 The Conference **stressed** that issues in this regard should be dealt with faithfully in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.

Subitem 9(e): Implementation of Article X

- 9.13 The Conference at its Fourteenth Session requested the Council to continue to deliberate with a view to developing further measures for emergency assistance to Member States, including with regard to the victims of chemical weapons, as provided in Article X of the Convention, and to report back to the Conference at its Fifteenth Session (paragraph 9.11 of C-14/5, dated 4 December 2009).
- 9.14 The Conference at its Twelfth Session requested the Council to conduct intensive deliberations to develop measures for emergency assistance to Member States, including with regard to the victims of chemical weapons, as provided in Article X of the Convention, and to report to the Conference at its Thirteenth Session, along with any appropriate recommendations (paragraph 21.8 of C-12/7, dated 9 November 2007).
- 9.15 The Conference at its Thirteenth Session requested the Council to continue further intensive deliberations in line with the above-mentioned mandate given to it by the Conference at its Twelfth Session, and to report to the Conference at its Fourteenth Session (paragraph 9.9 of C-13/5, dated 5 December 2008).
- 9.16 Pursuant to the recommendation of the Council at its Fifty-Eighth Session (paragraph 5.27 of EC-58/9, dated 16 October 2009), the Conference at its Fourteenth Session (paragraph 9.11 of C-14/5) requested the Council to continue to deliberate with a view to developing further measures for emergency assistance to Member States, including with regard to the victims of chemical weapons, as provided in Article X of the Convention, and to report back to the Conference at its Fifteenth Session.
- 9.17 The Conference **requested** the Council to continue its deliberations in this regard, taking into account all proposals from the States Parties relevant to this issue that are being brought forward to the Conference at its Fifteenth Session and/or the Council. In this regard, the Conference **noted** the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the establishment of an "International Support Network for the Victims of Chemical Weapons" (C-15/NAT.2, dated 29 November 2010). The Conference **requested** the Council to report back to the Conference at its Sixteenth Session, along with any appropriate recommendations.
- 9.18 The Conference **stressed** that issues in this regard should be dealt with faithfully in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.

Subitem 9(f): Revision to the specifications of the approved inspection equipment

9.19 The Conference **considered** the Note by the Secretariat on the proposed update of list of approved inspection equipment with operational requirements and technical specifications and **approved** the updated list contained therein (C-15/S/2, dated 4 November 2010).

10. AGENDA ITEM TEN – Annual report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2009

The Conference **considered** and **approved** the report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention in 2009 (C-15/4, dated 30 November 2010).

11. AGENDA ITEM ELEVEN – Annual report of the Executive Council on the performance of its activities in the period from 18 July 2009 to 2 July 2010

The Conference **noted** the report of the Council on the performance of its activities in the period from 18 July 2009 to 2 July 2010 (EC-62/5 C-15/2, dated 6 October 2010). The report was introduced by the Chairperson of the Council, Ambassador Jean-François Blarel of France, who also briefed the Conference on the developments that had taken place since the cut-off date for the report.

12. AGENDA ITEM TWELVE – Election of Member States to membership in the Executive Council

In accordance with paragraph 23 of Article VIII of the Convention, and with Rule 83 of its Rules of Procedure, the Conference **elected** 21 members for the following elective places on the Council for a term of two years, starting on 12 May 2011:

Africa: Cameroon, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria,

Rwanda

Asia: China, India, Japan, Malaysia, Republic of

Korea, Saudi Arabia

Eastern Europe: Croatia, Hungary

Latin America and the Caribbean: Argentina, Brazil, Mexico

Western Europe and Other States: France, Germany, Italy, United Kingdom of

Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United

States of America

13. AGENDA ITEM THIRTEEN – Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2011, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget

- 13.1 In accordance with subparagraph 21(a) of Article VIII of the Convention, and pursuant to Financial Regulation 3.6(a), the Conference **considered** and **adopted** the Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2011, which the Council had submitted to it (C-15/DEC.6, dated 2 December 2010).
- 13.2 The Medium-Term Plan for the period from 2011 to 2013 (EC-61/S/5 C-15/S/1, dated 7 June 2010 and Corr.1, dated 6 September 2010) had been circulated to the Member States, along with the Draft Programme and Budget for 2011.

14. AGENDA ITEM FOURTEEN – Scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties

In accordance with paragraph 21(b) of Article VIII of the Convention, the Conference **adopted** the scale of assessments to be paid by States Parties for the financial year 2011 (C-15/DEC.7, dated 2 December 2010).

15. AGENDA ITEM FIFTEEN – External Auditor's report on the audited financial statements of the OPCW for 2009

The Conference **noted** the financial statements of the OPCW and the report of the External Auditor for the year ending 31 December 2009 (EC-61/DG.9 C-15/DG.4, dated 7 June 2010), forwarded to it by the Council in accordance with Regulation 13.10 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules.

16. AGENDA ITEM SIXTEEN – Administrative and financial matters

Subitem 16(a): OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 30 June 2010; and the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2010

- 16.1 The Council at its Sixty-Second Session considered and forwarded to the Conference a report by the Director-General on OPCW income and expenditure for the financial year to 30 June 2010 (EC-62/DG.2 C-15/DG.5, dated 21 July 2010). The Conference **noted** this report.
- 16.2 Further to a decision by the Conference at its Fourteenth Session (subparagraph 3(p) of C-14/DEC.8, dated 2 December 2009), the Conference **noted** a Note by the Director-General on the cash situation and the use of the Working Capital Fund for the financial year to 31 August 2010 (EC-62/DG.6 C-15/DG.7, dated 17 September 2010).

Subitem 16(b): Status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans to regularise the payment of their outstanding annual contributions

- Pursuant to a decision by the Conference at its Eleventh Session (C-11/DEC.5, dated 7 December 2006), the Conference **considered** and **approved** the proposal for a multi-year payment plan to regularise the payment of outstanding annual contributions (C-15/DEC.4, dated 1 December 2010).
- Pursuant to the same decision, the Conference **considered** and **noted** the report on the status of implementation by States Parties of agreed multi-year payment plans (EC-62/DG.5 C-15/DG.6, dated 2 September 2010).

Subitem 16(c): Report of the Office of Internal Oversight for 2009

16.5 In accordance with Regulation 12.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, the Council at its Sixty-First Session considered and forwarded to the Conference the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight for the period from 1 January to

31 December 2009, and the accompanying Note by the Director-General (EC-60/DG.3 C-15/DG.3, dated 23 March 2010). The Conference **noted** this report.

Subitem 16(d): Transfers of funds between programmes in 2009

16.6 In accordance with Regulation 4.5 of the OPCW Financial Regulations and Rules, all transfers between Budget programmes shall be reported to the Conference. The Conference **noted** the Note by the Director-General on this matter (EC-59/DG.7 C-15/DG.2, dated 29 January 2010).

Subitem 16(e): Implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards

- 16.7 At its Fourteenth Session, the Conference requested the Secretariat to provide updates on the status of implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) to the Council at each of its sessions during 2010 and to the Conference at its Fifteenth Session (paragraph 2 of C-14/DEC.5, dated 2 December 2009). The Conference **considered** and **noted** the Note by the Secretariat on the implementation of IPSAS (C-15/S/3, dated 17 November 2010).
- 16.8 At the same session, the Conference also requested the Director-General to submit proposed amendments to the Financial Regulations of the OPCW to the Council for consideration and subsequent submission, along with the recommendations of the Council, as appropriate, to the Conference at its Fifteenth Session, in accordance with Financial Regulation 16.1 (paragraph 3 of C-14/DEC.5). The Conference **considered** and **adopted** a decision on the amendment of the Financial Regulations of the OPCW (C-15/DEC.5, dated 1 December 2010).

17. AGENDA ITEM SEVENTEEN – Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities

- 17.1 At its Fourteenth Session the Conference requested the Council, pursuant to previous decisions of the Conference, to intensify consultations at regular intervals to develop concrete measures and recommendations within an agreed framework to ensure the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI, and report back to the Conference at its Fifteenth Session for consideration (paragraph 1 of C-14/DEC.11, dated 4 December 2009).
- 17.2 The Conference **welcomed** the holding of a workshop on Article XI of the Convention on 24 and 25 November 2010, and **requested** the Council to consider the outcome of the aforementioned workshop through the ongoing facilitation process on the full implementation of Article XI of the Convention, in order to develop concrete measures and recommendations within an agreed framework to ensure the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of Article XI of the Convention, as decided in C-14/DEC.11.
- 17.3 The Conference **stressed** that issues in this regard should be dealt with faithfully in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention.

18. AGENDA ITEM EIGHTEEN – Ensuring the universality of the Convention

The Conference **noted** the annual report by the Director-General on the implementation of the action plan for the universality of the Convention during the period from 14 September 2009 to 15 September 2010 (EC-62/DG.11 C-15/DG.8, dated 23 September 2010).

19. AGENDA ITEM NINETEEN – The OPCW Programme for Africa

The Conference **took note with appreciation** of the Note by the Director-General on the "Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention" (C-15/DG.12, dated 10 November 2010).

20. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY – Reports of subsidiary bodies

Committee of the Whole

20.1 The Conference **noted** that, during this session of the Conference, no items had been allocated to the Committee of the Whole.

General Committee

20.2 The Conference **noted** the reports of the General Committee, and took appropriate action as required.

Confidentiality Commission

- 20.3 The Conference **noted** the report of the Twelfth Meeting of the Commission for the Settlement of Disputes Related to Confidentiality (CC-12/1, dated 21 May 2010).
- 20.4 The Conference was informed by its Chairperson that, following consultations with the Eastern European Group, pursuant to Rule 4 of the Operating Procedures of the Confidentiality Commission (C-III/DEC.10/Rev.1, dated 2 December 2004), he had appointed Mr Ognemir Stoimenov to replace Mr Valentin Dontchev for the remainder of the latter's term of office.
- 20.5 In accordance with paragraph 23 of the Confidentiality Annex to the Convention and Rule 2(b) of the Operating Procedures of the Confidentiality Commission (C-III/DEC.10/Rev.1), the Conference **elected** the following 20 members of the Confidentiality Commission for a term of two years, beginning on 1 January 2011:

Africa Ambassador Omer Dahab Fadl Mohamed (Sudan)

Mr Lebogang Montjane (South Africa)

Dr Charles Norbert Muzanila (United Republic of Tanzania)

Mr Augustine Oniwon (Nigeria)

Asia Ms Haruka Katarao (Japan)

Dr Gajula Narendra Kumar (India)

Professor Djamchid Momtaz (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Mr Guangzhou Qu (China)

Eastern Europe Mrs Nineta Barbulescu (Romania)

Mr Jan Chára (Czech Republic)

Mr Viktor Golovkin (Russian Federation)

Mr Ognemir Stoimenov (Bulgaria)

Latin America and

Mr Jesús M. Cuevillas (Cuba) the Caribbean

Ambassador Fanny de Lourdes Puma Puma (Ecuador)

Mr Mariano Jordan (Argentina) Mr Camilo Sanhueza (Chile)

Mr Anthony Aust (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Western European

and Other States Northern Ireland)

Ms Susan Richey (United States of America)

Professor Ioannis Seimenis (Greece) Professor Dieter C. Umbach (Germany)

Credentials Committee

The report of the Credentials Committee (C-15/3, dated 1 December 2010) was 20.6 presented by its Chairperson, Ambassador Grace Ammal Asirwatham of Sri Lanka. The Conference **approved** the report.

Committee on Relations with the Host Country

20.7 The Conference considered and noted a report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country on the performance of its activities from November 2009 to September 2010 (EC-62/HCC/1 C-15/HCC/1, dated 30 September 2010).

21. **AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-ONE – Any other business**

No matters were raised under this agenda item.

22. AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-TWO - Adoption of the report of the Conference of the States Parties

The Conference **considered** and **adopted** the report of its Fifteenth Session.

23. **AGENDA ITEM TWENTY-THREE – Closure**

The Chairperson closed the Fifteenth Session of the Conference at 21:44 on 3 December 2010.