



**CHAIR
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT
GENEVA CHAPTER**



**FIFTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF
CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE
EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS (CCW)**

Geneva, 12 - 16 December 2016

**General Statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and Other States
Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons by the Delegation of
the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations Office in Geneva**

Geneva, 12 December 2016

Madam Chair,

1. I have the honor to speak on behalf of the States Parties of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and other States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW).
2. NAM Group congratulates you, Ambassador Tehmina Janjua, on your election as President of the Fifth Review Conference of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW).
3. Our Group is confident that with your knowledge, experience and diplomatic skills you will be able to guide our work effectively towards achieving the common objectives of this Fifth Review Conference. The Group stands ready to engage constructively with you and other States Parties to bring this Review Conference to a successful conclusion.

Madam Chair,

4. The Group would like to re-emphasize its position as reflected in the final Document during the XVII Summit of the NAM, which took place last September, in Margarita Island, Venezuela.



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5. NAM States Parties to the Convention on Prohibition or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW) and its Protocols encouraged States to become parties to the Convention and its Protocols.
6. NAM States Parties to CCW welcome the accession of Algeria, Palestine, Bahrain, Côte d'Ivoire, Lesotho and Montenegro to the Convention and its annexed protocols.
7. We strongly believe that the universal adherence to and further strengthening of the Convention will make a significant contribution to advancing further in the field of disarmament on the basis of universal, multilateral, non-discriminatory and transparent negotiations with the goal of reaching general and complete disarmament under strict international control.
8. NAM is of the view that Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS) raise a number of ethical, legal, moral and technical, as well as international peace and security related questions which should be thoroughly deliberated and examined in the context of conformity to international law including international humanitarian law and international human rights law.
9. In this regard, NAM States Parties and Other States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) welcome the third informal meeting of CCW experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems held in Geneva from 11-15 April 2016 and support continued deliberations on this issue in the open-ended Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on the basis of an agreed mandate by consensus at the informal meeting of CCW Experts.
10. Regarding the explosive remnants of the Second World War, particularly in the form of landmine, which continue to cause human and material damage and obstruct development plans in some NAM countries, the Movement calls on the States primarily responsible for laying these mines and leaving explosives outside their territories during the Second World War, to cooperate with affected countries and provide mine action support, including information exchange, maps indicating the locations of mines and explosives, technical assistance for mine clearance, defrayal of the costs of clearance and compensation for any losses caused by mines-laid.
11. NAM recognizes the significant imbalance in the production, possession and trade in conventional weapons between the industrialized and Non-Aligned Countries, and calls for a significant reduction in the production, possession and



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trade of conventional weapons by the industrialized states with a view to enhancing international and regional peace and security.

12. The Group of NAM and Other States Parties to the CCW stresses the importance of the reduction of military expenditures by major arms producing countries, in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, and urges those countries to devote these resources to global economic and social development, in particular in the fight against poverty.

Madam Chair,

13. The Group of NAM and Other States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) look forward to engage constructively to consider and review proposals with a view to reach a consensual outcome.