Thank you, Mr. Chair for giving me the floor.

1. The delegation of Kenya expresses its appreciation to the Chair for the presentation of the agenda item and the comprehensive report that forms the basis for our deliberations under this agenda item.

2. Kenya commends the efforts of the Chair and the Implementation Support Unit in enhancing universalization of the Convention.

3. Kenya was honoured to have hosted the regional workshop for African States not party to the Convention, in March this year, together with UNODA and the EU. While we would have been delighted to welcome the participants to Nairobi, the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions did not allow. However, the virtual workshop was crucial in sustaining the momentum on universalization of the BWC on our continent. Kenya remains hopeful that continuous engagement in this regard will result in additional States Parties to this important Convention.

4. Further, Kenya is well placed in the East Africa region and has been leading universalization of BWC in the Region with the aim of bringing more States Parties on board.

   Mr. Chair,
5. The delegation of Kenya takes note of the information provided in the report highlighting the overview of the current status with regards to efforts in the States not party to the Convention.

6. The Covid-19 pandemic has made a compelling argument for the continued implementation of the BWC all across the world.

7. Kenya is hopeful that sustained universalization efforts remain crucial in enhancing awareness of the Convention and looks forward to an increase in the number of States Parties to the Convention in the coming years.

I thank you for your attention.