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)

SIXTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING 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

Geneva, 13 - 17 December 2021

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

Agenda Item 15: Financial Issues related to the Convention and its annexed Protocols and relations between High Contracting Parties (HCP) and United Nations

Geneva, 16 December 2021

Mr. Chairman,

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 recalls the Decision 6 adopted by the Fifth Review Conference, quote “To include on the agenda of the annual Meetings of the High Contracting Parties the item “Financial issues related to the Convention and its annexed Protocols” and to consider at the next such meeting efficiency and cost saving measures and a report to be prepared by the Chairperson elect in consultation with High Contracting Parties, the Implementation Support Unit and United Nations Financial Resources Management Service on working within the Enterprise Resource Planning System (UMOJA), and to invite the Implementation Support Unit to present to each such meeting a biennial budget for consideration by High Contracting Parties.” End the quote.

3. Regarding the financial issues related to the Convention and its annexed Protocols, the Group of NAM is of the view that it will be necessary to adopt efficiency and cost saving measures in consultations with all High Contracting Parties in order to address the current financial situation of the Convention.

4. NAM recognizes the importance of increasing the financial sustainability of the Convention. However, setting up punitive measures might not be effective and may have unintended adverse effects on participation and membership.
Mr. Chairman,

5. The financial challenges must be dealt with, but they are transitory. The measures taken to address them should not undermine the Convention in the long run. The Group of NAM is concerned with the possible impacts of the financial measures on participation of member States and, ultimately, on the perspectives of universalizing the Convention.

6. The Group takes note on the non-paper submitted by the Chairperson entitled “CCW Consolidated Financial Measures”, on the further measures that could be considered to improve the stability of the convention and on financial issues related to the Convention and its annexed Protocols. The Group appreciates the efforts undertaken by the Chairman for the preparation and drafting elements of the decision on financial issues.

7. The Group of NAM believes that any measures adopted will be essential to address the immediate funding situation and to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Convention.

8. NAM is of the view that those measures should be operational as soon as possible.

9. We understand that the measures proposed to address the current situation of this Convention and any other measures to address the situation in other Disarmament instruments should be consulted and adopted by its States Parties.

10. The Group of NAM express its deep concern on the continued lack of adequate representation from NAM countries in United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), the movement requests the Secretary General and High Representative to undertake steps to ensure balanced and equitable representation in that office.

11. The Group of NAM and Other States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) looks forward to engage and participate constructively and active manner to consider and review proposals with a view to reach a consensual decision.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.