



---

**GROUP OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT  
AND OTHER STATES PARTIES  
TO THE BWC**

---

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF MALAYSIA  
ON BEHALF OF  
THE GROUP OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT  
AND OTHER STATES PARTIES  
TO THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION  
AT THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR  
THE SIXTH REVIEW CONFERENCE OF  
THE STATES PARTIES TO THE  
BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION**

**Geneva  
26 April 2006**

*Please Check Against Delivery*

**STATEMENT BY  
THE GROUP OF NON-ALIGNED AND OTHER STATES  
TO THE BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION,  
AT THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE SIXTH REVIEW  
CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE  
BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION, GENEVA  
26 APRIL 2006**

Mr. Chairman,

1. I have the honour to take the floor to speak on behalf of the Group of Non-Aligned Movement and Other States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC).

2. At the outset, allow me on behalf of the Group to congratulate you on your assumption as Chairman of this Preparatory Committee. Indeed we are proud to see that a representative of this Group has again been given this honour and privilege to preside over the important deliberations on the preparation for the Sixth Review Conference of the Convention which will take place later this year. The Group is confident that with your knowledge, skills and experience you will be able to steer our work effectively during this next few days towards achieving the objective of this meeting. The Group stands ready to work and engage constructively with you and other States Parties in meeting our common objective.

Mr. Chairman,

3. The Group would like to reiterate its deep concern at the potential use and/or threats of use of biological agents and toxins as an instrument of war and terror. In light of this development, the Group feels that there is a greater necessity and urgency for the States Parties of the BWC to work towards strengthening and improving the effectiveness and implementation of this Convention so that together we can fully address this concern.

4. The high importance the Group attaches to an effective and verifiable BWC, implemented in a comprehensive manner, cannot be overemphasized. The members of the Group have consistently addressed this particular issue as a crucial element for regional and global peace and security.

5. The Group would like to reaffirm our conviction that the BWC is essential for the maintenance of international and regional peace and security. We reaffirm our continued determination, for the sake of humankind, that the possibility of any use of bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins as weapons should be completely excluded, and the conviction that such use would be repugnant to the conscience of humankind.

6. The Group further recognises the particular importance of strengthening the Convention through multilateral negotiations for a legally binding Protocol to the Convention. We believe that the effective contribution of the Convention to international and regional peace and security would be enhanced through universal adherence to the Convention. The Group stresses the particular importance of all States Parties to pursue the objectives that were set forth by the Fourth Review Conference in 1996, as we strongly believe that the only sustainable method of strengthening the Convention is through multilateral negotiations aimed at concluding a non-discriminatory legally binding agreement, dealing with all the Articles of the Convention in a balanced and comprehensive manner.

Mr. Chairman,

7. Later this year at the Sixth Review Conference, we will be at a critical juncture to reflect on the progress made in the full realization of the goals and objectives of the Convention since the Fifth Review Conference (19 November – 7 December 2001, and 11 – 15 November 2002). Given the importance of the forthcoming Review Conference to focus its deliberations on substantive matters, it would be pertinent for this Preparatory Committee to address and agree upon on the procedural arrangements for the Review Conference.

8. One of the main tasks before this Preparatory Committee is to agree on the draft provisional Agenda for the Sixth Review Conference. The Group is of the view that the general thrust of the Review Conference should be based on the review of the operation and implementation of all the Articles of the Convention, including consideration of the work of the 3 intersessional Meetings of Experts and States Parties in 2003, 2004 and 2005. The Review Conference will also have the task to consider future measures to further strengthen the effectiveness and improve the implementation of the Convention.

9. In accordance with Article XII of the Convention and decisions of the Third and Fourth Review Conferences, the Group underlines the importance for the forthcoming Sixth Review Conference to review the operation of the Convention with a view to assuring that the purposes of the preamble and the provisions of the Convention are being realized.

10. The Group reiterates that the BWC forms a composite whole and that while it is possible to address related issues separately, it is necessary for all the inter-linked elements of the Convention to be dealt with in a balanced and comprehensive manner, whether they relate to regulation, compliance or promotion. In this connection, the Group recalls the decisions of the Fifth Review Conference and stresses the need for the Sixth Review Conference to consider the work of the annual Meeting of Experts and Meeting of States Parties that had taken place in the last three years. We reaffirm that the 2003 – 2005 annual Meeting of Experts and the Meeting of States Parties had provided States Parties with an opportunity to exchange views and promote common understanding, taking into account national experiences, on the respective issues under consideration.

11. The Group further reiterates that given the limited nature of the decision that was taken during the resumed session of the Fifth Review Conference and in light of the challenges and risks posed by rapid developments in the field of biological science, it will be pertinent for the forthcoming Review Conference to consider and decide on future measures that could further strengthen the effectiveness and improve the implementation of the Convention in its entirety.

Mr. Chairman,

12. Let me conclude by reassuring you of our full cooperation for the success of this meeting.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.