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Thematic Debate on Other Weapons of Mass Destruction

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STATEMENT

by

H. E. Mr. Witold Sobków
Permanent Representative of Poland
to the United Nations
in New York

New York, October 22nd, 2010
UNGA First Committee

Introduction of the Draft Resolution
on the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction

Statement by Ambassador Witold Sobków
Permanent Representative of Poland to United Nations in New York

1. It is an honour and pleasure for me to introduce, on behalf of the Delegation of Poland, a Draft Resolution L.23 on the implementation of Chemical Weapons Convention.

2. The active and continued coordination of the work on the CWC Resolution is a concrete input Poland has made throughout many years to promote the effective prohibition of chemical weapons. Support for both full and effective implementation of all provisions of the Convention and its universality are core objectives of Poland’s efforts in support for the total prohibition of chemical weapons.

3. The Resolution on the implementation of Chemical Weapons Convention is a unique document. It emphasises the importance of the universality of the Convention. It provides United Nations support for all four pillars of the Convention. The first of them is the support for the irreversible destruction of all chemical weapons and their means of production. The second is non-proliferation, to ensure that new chemical weapons do not emerge. The third is assistance and protection for States Parties to defend themselves against the possible use of chemical weapons. And the fourth pillar is international cooperation to promote the peaceful uses of chemistry.

4. By adopting the Resolution by consensus every year the United Nations has expressed its unequivocal support for the prohibition of chemical weapons and for the work of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

5. We consider that the text of this year’s Draft Resolution is well balanced. Our basic assumption, and goal, was to ensure, like in previous years, a consensus approval for the Resolution. Our consensus is crucial to provide an unequivocal support of the United Nations to the implementation of the Convention.

6. During the extensive bilateral and open-ended informal consultations attended by many Delegations, we were assured about the support for this Draft and readiness of Delegations in the First Committee to join consensus on it.

7. Let me express our gratitude and thanks to all the Delegations participating in these extensive consultations on the new Draft Resolution on CWC implementation. These consultations confirmed existence of a broad political support in all regions for the implementation of the Convention in its entirety. The draft Resolution presented today is an expression of this support.

8. As it was the case in previous years Poland continues to serve as the sole sponsor of the Resolution. The sole sponsorship – again supported in this year’s consultations – helps us ensure both regional and political balance as well as broad support of all UN Members for the Resolution. Therefore Poland will not seek or invite sponsors for the draft Resolution.

9. The Delegation of Poland asks for the approval of the Draft Resolution on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention without a vote.