



**CHAIRMANSHIP
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT
GENEVA CHAPTER**

**2019 MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION
OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION AND STOCKPILING OF BACTERIOLOGICAL
(BIOLOGICAL) AND TOXIN WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

Geneva, 3 - 6 December 2019

**Statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and other States Parties to the Biological and
Toxin Weapon Convention delivered by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to
the United Nations Office in Geneva**

Agenda Item 10: Arrangements for the Ninth Review Conference and its Preparatory Committee in
2021.

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to speak on behalf of the States Parties of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) and other States Parties to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC).

Pending a consensus on a comprehensive legally binding instrument on the balanced and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Convention, the Group reaffirms that the Review Conference, as the forum to make substantive and procedural decisions, constitutes as the only authority for reviewing the operation of the Convention with a view to ensuring that the purposes of the Preamble and provisions of the Convention are being realized.

In addition, as decided by the 2017 MSP, I quote, the “Ninth Review Conference will consider the work and outcomes it receives from the Meetings of States Parties and the Meetings of Experts and decide by consensus on any inputs from the intersessional programme and on any further action.” End of quote.

Given the role, substantial workload and mandate of the Review Conference, NAM Group is of the view that the ninth Review Conference in 2021 may be held in line with established practice and the decision to this effect may be taken at the end of the current intersessional process, after taking into account all factors and considerations.

Thank you