

(Mr. Koicai, Kenya)

... I have requested the floor today to read a statement on behalf of the Group of Neutral and Non-aligned States that are members of this Conference, regarding the mandate of the Ad hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons. The statement reads as follows:

"The Group of 21 would like to make the following statement on the establishment of the Ad hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons.

"The forty-third session of the General Assembly adopted without a vote two resolutions on chemical weapons that referred to the work of the Ad hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons. The first, resolution 43/74 A on 'Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol and to support the conclusion of a chemical weapons convention', specifically 'urges the Conference on Disarmament to pursue as a matter of continuing urgency its negotiations on a convention on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruction'.

"The second, resolution 43/74 C on 'Chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons', after expressing the regret and the concern of the General Assembly that a convention with the scope mentioned above has not yet been elaborated, 'urges again the Conference on Disarmament, as a matter of high priority, to intensify, during its 1989 session, the negotiations on such a convention and to reinforce further its efforts by, inter alia, increasing the time during the year that it devotes to such negotiations, taking into account all existing proposals and future

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