

(Mr. Velayati, Islamic Republic of Iran)

I would like to express my sincere wish that the Convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons, which is now under preparation by this forum, will be ready at the earliest possible time and will be fully effective, and we have instructed our delegation to do its utmost in this regard. However, if this Convention is signed but the attitude of the Superpowers and other producers and suppliers of chemical weapons remains the same, based upon colonial and inhumane motives, then all the efforts rendered so far will bear no fruits but the wastage of time, energy and budgetary resources. We believe that the position adopted by this Conference and other related organs towards the deployment of chemical weapons against the Islamic Republic of Iran will show in reality the degree of sincerity and the sense of responsibility regarding the newly-prepared Convention and will form an excellent criterion to determine its status and capability in the future.