

The PRESIDENT (translated from Spanish): I call to order the 400th plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament.

In accordance with its programme of work, the Conference today is to continue the consideration of agenda item 4, "Chemical weapons". In accordance with rule 30 of the rules of procedure, however, members who so desire can make statements on any other question related to the work of the Conference. The representatives of China, France and Mongolia are on my list of speakers for today.

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(Mr. Wu Xueqian, China)

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China is a socialist as well as a developing country, pursuing an independent foreign policy of peace. Having suffered untold hardships from foreign aggression and the scourge of war in the past, China is engaged in a