**Position Paper**

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**Committee:** Disarmament and International Security Committee

**Issue:** The Regulation of Chemical Weapon Possession and Usage

As chemical weapons continue to be developed and enhanced, further research and regulations are being put into action. Although there are numerous aspects to this issue, one to highlight is its incompatibility with humanitarian law. The use of chemical weapons violates international agreements such as the CWC and poses several risks to global security and peace. Previous impacts of chemical weapons have been observed throughout both World Wars and multiple different occasions. The chemical weapons in question have various effects on the human body, the usage of these weapons go against humanitarian laws according to the CWC. Before addressing these concerns, it must be stated that The Federative Republic of Brazil is against the usage, production, stockpiling and development of chemical weapons and is in favor of strong actions being taken and regulations being created regarding this issue.

Regarding the concerns about the destruction of the currently existing chemical weapons, one of the most important things to address is countries’ transparency concerning their chemical weapon stockpile and development plans. Countries declaring all of their chemical weapons in detail, collaborating with The OPCW, and agreeing to the inspection and destruction of the chemical weapons in possession is crucial to ensure international security and peace. About the principles and methods for destruction of chemical weapons, each State Party may determine how it shall destroy chemical weapons. Though, certain processes may not be recommended such as, dumping in any body of water, open-pit burning and land burial.

Regarding the concerns about the threat of terrorism, it is very significant to observe previous terrorism acts including the usage of chemical weapons to address this issue more elaborately. For instance, the Ghouta chemical attack carried out by the forces of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, happened on 21 August 2013. This attack led to many civilian casualties. According to the reports, the attack resulted in killing 1127 individuals, including 107 children and 201 women. In addition, injuring 5935 individuals. These previous events that happened can be a guide to the countries on how to cope with such events.

Regarding the concerns about further expanding the existing conventions and regulations, it is critical to focus on the flaws of the existing conventions such as The CWC. It is important that the conventions and regulations are universal to ensure international security and peace. For instance, the three countries not ratifying The CWC should be encouraged to observe the obligations of the convention and ratify it. Furthermore, more national legislative regulations could be put into action in order to further prevent usage, development and production of chemical weapons. It should be said that Brazil has a firm commitment to the work of the OPCW and we will work as hard as we can in order to guarantee a secure environment worldwide.

In conclusion, The Federative Republic of Brazil is against the usage, further development, stockpiling and production of chemical weapons. We realize the risks that chemical weapons pose. Brazil supports the destruction of such weapons, further enhancing the existing regulations and conventions, imposing sanctions on the countries promoting the usage of chemical weapons and other obligatory actions being taken. The Federative Republic of Brazil is highly open to discuss all opinions and present solutions similar to the ones on this paper, and find the best solution to the agenda item.

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