

Mr. KOLAROV

Mr President,

At the outset let me remind all delegates that pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention costs of the meetings of the States Parties "shall be borne by the States Parties and States not parties to this Convention participating therein, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately". These costs include, but are not limited to, interpretation and conference support during the meetings, and translation, publication and circulation of all official documents by the United Nations. A failure to meet the art.14 obligation represents a non-compliance with this provision of the treaty.

You will recall that in accordance with the Financial Rules and Regulations of the United Nations, all costs for servicing these meetings must be available in advance of the respective meeting and the expected services. Failure to do so may lead to cost-cutting measures, shortening of the meetings or non-translation of core documents into the Convention's languages.

Regrettably, Mr President, for several years now this convention is facing a budget deficit due to outstanding contributions by several States, which heavily impact our work.

The situation as of today is as follows:

Original cost estimate for 2019: US\$ 824,900

Still unpaid contributions to the 2019 budget US\$ 85,981.83

Collection rate: 89% - the lowest compared to other Geneva based disarmament conventions

I would take this opportunity to appeal to all States that have not yet done so to pay as soon as possible and in full their financial obligations to the budget of the Convention. This office stands ready to support the President and the States Parties in your efforts to agree on possible measures to strengthen the financial resilience of the Convention, as well as to provide information on how to pay smaller amounts, or how to pay the contributions in case bank transfers cannot be used.

Situation for 2018 – US\$ 19,109.14 still unpaid assessed contribution

Financial situation in relation to all closed projects (before 2018) US\$ 84,083.69

THANK YOU!