Abdulrahman Jameel

Aljazari International School

MEFMUN

Disarmament and International Security (DISEC)

14 March 2023

**Topic: Preventing Non-State Actors from Acquiring Weapons of Mass Destruction**

As the delegation of Switzerland, we believe that preventing non-state actors from acquiring weapons of mass destruction (WMD) is a critical issue that requires immediate action from the international community. The proliferation of WMDs is a severe threat to global security, and non-state actors' acquisition of these weapons could have devastating consequences on regional and global stability. Therefore, it is essential that we take steps to prevent such a scenario from occurring.

Switzerland’s Position Paper on Preventing Non-State Actors from Acquiring WMD

**Introduction**

Switzerland is a landlocked country located in Western Europe, bordered by Germany to the north, France to the west, Italy to the south, and Austria and Liechtenstein to the east. It covers an area of approximately 41,290 square kilometers and is divided into 26 cantons, each with its own government and constitution.

Switzerland has a highly developed and diversified economy, with a strong focus on services such as banking, finance, and tourism. It is also a major producer and exporter of pharmaceuticals, chemicals, and precision instruments. Despite its small size, Switzerland is one of the wealthiest countries in the world, with a high standard of living and a low unemployment rate.

**Switzerland’s Position**

Switzerland strongly supports the international legal framework on the non-proliferation of WMDs, including the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), and the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC). We believe that these treaties provide a strong basis for preventing the spread of WMDs to non-state actors. Therefore, we call upon all member states to strengthen their commitment to these treaties and to work towards universal adherence.

In addition to the legal framework and verification mechanisms, Switzerland believes that there is a need for enhanced cooperation and information-sharing among member states to prevent the acquisition of WMDs by non-state actors. This can be achieved through greater collaboration between intelligence agencies and law enforcement authorities, sharing of best practices, and increased coordination of efforts at the regional and global levels.

**Switzerland’s Resolution / Approach**

Switzerland, as a country committed to neutrality and global peace, can propose the following resolutions to address the issue of preventing non-state actors from acquiring weapons of mass destruction (WMDs):

1. Establish a dedicated international task force: Create a task force comprising experts, law enforcement, and intelligence agencies from participating nations to specifically focus on monitoring, investigating, and addressing the threat of WMDs proliferation to non-state actors.
2. Strengthen the international legal framework: Encourage all nations to ratify and implement existing treaties and conventions related to WMDs, while also proposing new legal instruments to address emerging threats and gaps in the current framework.
3. Enhance information-sharing and cooperation: Develop a secure platform for member states to share intelligence, best practices, and resources related to WMD proliferation to non-state actors. Encourage greater collaboration and coordination at regional and global levels.
4. Implement capacity-building programs: Offer technical assistance, training, and resources to countries in need to strengthen their ability to prevent WMD proliferation, improve export control systems, enhance border security, and respond to potential threats.
5. Address the financing of WMD proliferation: Propose an international agreement to enhance cooperation in identifying, disrupting, and preventing the financing of WMD proliferation by non-state actors, in accordance with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations.
6. Strengthen the role of existing initiatives: Encourage active participation in existing initiatives and forums, such as the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT), the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), and the Australia Group, while also supporting efforts to improve their effectiveness.
7. Promote research and development in detection and countermeasure technologies: Encourage international collaboration in research and development of technologies for detecting, tracking, and neutralizing WMDs to mitigate the risks associated with their proliferation to non-state actors.
8. Address root causes of WMD acquisition by non-state actors: Develop programs and initiatives to address political instability, poverty, and lack of economic development, which may contribute to the motivation for non-state actors to seek WMDs.
9. Conduct joint exercises and simulations: Organize joint exercises and simulations with participating nations to enhance preparedness and response capabilities in case of WMD incidents involving non-state actors.
10. Raise awareness and engage the private sector: Develop programs to raise awareness about the risks of WMD proliferation to non-state actors and engage the private sector, particularly industries involved in the production and trade of sensitive materials, in the development of robust security and compliance practices.

By pursuing these resolutions, Switzerland can contribute to a coordinated, comprehensive, and effective approach to preventing non-state actors from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, thereby enhancing global security and stability.

**Conclusion**

Finally, Switzerland recognizes the importance of addressing the root causes of non-state actors' acquisition of WMDs, including political instability, poverty, and lack of economic development. Therefore, we support initiatives aimed at addressing these root causes, such as promoting economic growth, strengthening democratic institutions, and providing humanitarian assistance to countries facing crises.

Switzerland remains committed to preventing the proliferation of WMDs to non-state actors and calls upon the international community to unite in this effort. By strengthening the legal framework, enhancing international cooperation, improving export controls and border security, addressing financing, and supporting capacity-building initiatives, we can work together to safeguard global security and ensure a peaceful future for all.