

4MSP - STATEMENT OF AUSTRIA

Review Conference,

Thank you Mr. President,

We are entirely happy with the suggested course of action in the President's Paper that you be mandated to undertake open-ended consultations on matters related to the preparation for the Review Conference which will be the basis for decisions to be taken by States Parties at the 5th Meeting of States Parties in Thailand. We also think that formal preparatory meetings should be held back to back with the meetings of the Standing Committees in 2004 as these meeting will inevitably have a significant impact on the substantive part and the outcome of the review Conference.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity – like my colleagues from Norway and Canada have done – to state that Austria would be pleased to consider serving as a host for the Review Conference in Vienna in 2004. We look forward to the consultations by the President in this regard.