Original: ENGLISH

Third Meeting Managua, 18- 21 September 2001

## STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE THIRD MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE OTTAWA CONVENTION REGARDING TERRORIST ATTACKS ON THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Since Monday afternoon, I have had the opportunity to meet with members of many delegations attending the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention being held in Managua and have also heard and read the statements delivered by many heads of delegations.

In this regard, I have been struck by the general sense of outrage over the 11 September terrorist attacks on the United States of America and the repudiation of these attacks, and of terrorism generally. These feelings, which I expressed in my welcoming remarks on the morning of 18 September, are widely shared judging from conversations I have had with delegates from all over the world.

In light of the depth of feelings on this subject which I have found at this meeting, I believe that I speak for the delegates to the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention on the subject of terrorism when I conclude:

- (i) that the horrendous terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 on the United States of America, which claimed over 6,000 innocent lives of eighty nationalities, constituted an odious, criminal act that is strongly condemned;
- (ii) that we express our solidarity with the People and Government of the United States of America and extend our heartfelt sympathy to the families and loved ones of all the victims of this barbaric and inhuman action;
- (iii) that we hope that all our countries will work together to bring to justice the perpetrators of these despicable acts as well as those who aid and abet them; and



(iv) that we call upon the international community to increase its efforts to thwart terrorism by increased cooperation and full implementation of existing international anti-terrorist conventions and Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 1269 of 19 October 1999 and 1368 of 12 September 2001.