

## Permanent Representation of the Republic of Indonesia to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

## National Statement of the Republic of Indonesia at the 29<sup>th</sup> Conference of State Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention The Hague, 25 – 29 November 2024

Mr. Chairperson
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

First and foremost, allow me to extend our congratulations to Your Excellency Ambassador Almir Sahović of Bosnia and Herzegovina on your appointment as the Chairperson of this year's Conference. We believe your able leadership and extensive experience will guide our deliberations towards a successful discussion.

I also wish to express our appreciation to Director General Fernando Arias and his team for the unwavering commitment and efforts in supporting the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).

Indonesia aligns itself with the statement delivered by Uganda on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) States Parties to the CWC.

## Mr. Chair,

The CWC remains a cornerstone of international efforts for disarmament and non-proliferation of chemical weapons. Last year marked the historic milestone of complete destruction of declared chemical weapons stockpiles. Moving forward, we must shift our focus to the re-emergence of chemical weapons.

Indonesia remains committed to the full and effective implementation of the CWC and to work collectively to achieve a world free from weapons of mass destruction. Towards that end, we would like to highlight **3 (three) points:** 

**First,** Indonesia believes the CWC remains the most effective instrument in promoting the disarmament of chemical weapons. Today's geopolitical landscape is marked by escalating conflicts and growing threats to global security. In these challenging times, State Parties' strong commitment to implement the CWC is crucial.

The full implementation of CWC is a collective responsibility shared by all States Parties. It is vital that we continue to build trust and ensure the safety and security of all states against the threat of chemical weapons.

As part of our national commitment, Indonesia's legislation is fully aligned with the CWC's requirements. We have undergone regular verification and inspection processes to demonstrate transparency and our adherence to the Convention's provisions.

**Second,** we must preserve the integrity of the CWC in the face of international security challenges. In recent years, we have observed a tendency for Member States to use international organizations to further political agendas.

Last year, States Parties reached the total elimination of declared chemical weapons. Our success relied on the confidence and trust of its members, which can only be maintained through open and transparent deliberations. Therefore, we must return to the CWC's primary mandate: the total elimination of chemical weapons and the prevention of their re-emergence without resorting into political agendas which will consume our resources.

**Third,** Indonesia places high importance on international cooperation and peaceful use of chemical materials, which are the key pillars of the CWC. We reiterate the significance of Articles X and XI of the Convention, which emphasize the development and exchange of scientific knowledge and technology for the benefit of all Parties. Hence, full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of these articles is essential.

We commend the work of OPCW Technical Secretariat in facilitating tailored training programs and capacity building activities, particularly in the areas of chemical safety and security. These initiatives are crucial for strengthening national capacities and fostering a culture of chemical security. Indonesia remains committed to working closely with the OPCW and other States Parties to expand these efforts and promote the peaceful uses of chemistry.

We welcome the Secretary General's initiative to establish a working group on Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the context of the Convention. The OPCW and State Parties to the Convention need to be well informed and equipped to address the potentials and challenges of AI. Indonesia stands ready to cooperate and contribute to the discussion.

## Mr. Chair,

Before concluding, Indonesia would like to emphasize that the use of chemical weapons – by anyone, under any circumstances— is <u>unacceptable</u>. The OPCW must remain vigilant and ready to provide timely and effective assistance to State Parties in the event of threats or actual use of chemical weapons, including in Palestine.

Our delegation looks forward to the deliberations and hopes the discussions will be guided by the spirit of mutual trust and good faith.

We kindly request that this statement be considered as an official document of the Conference and published on the public website of the OPCW.

Thank you.