



**NEW ZEALAND STATEMENT
BY H.E. AMBASSADOR SUSANNAH GORDON PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
NEW ZEALAND TO THE OPCW AT THE TWENTY NINTH SESSION OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES**

Chair,

New Zealand associates itself with the Canada, Australia and New Zealand statement delivered by Canada. I would like to make some additional comments in my national capacity.

The New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs has this week announced further sanctions under the Russia Sanctions Act of 2022. Four of the designations are Russian actors involved in the production or deployment of chemical weapons against Ukraine. This is in line with recent findings by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons that Riot Control Agents are being used on the frontlines in Ukraine, in contravention of the Chemical Weapons Convention. This is also backed up by other evidence that, in the course of 2024, Russia has been using chemical weapons on the battlefield.

The new sanctions package demonstrates New Zealand's continued condemnation of breaches of international law by Russia in its aggression against Ukraine.

Thank you, Chair.