

**STATEMENT**  
**BY FIRST SECRETARY HO YAO NIAN, AT THE GENERAL DEBATE**  
**OF THE TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF**  
**STATES PARTIES,**  
**25 NOVEMBER – 29 NOVEMBER 2024,**  
**THE HAGUE**

Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

The Singapore delegation would like to extend our warm congratulations to Ambassador Almir Šahović on his appointment as the Chairperson of the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of States Parties (CSP) to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). You have Singapore's full support. We also take this opportunity to thank Ambassador Suljuk Mustansar Tarar for his leadership of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the CSP.

2 Singapore welcomes the successful convening by Morocco and the OPCW of the first ever Global Conference on the Role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Advancing the Implementation of the CWC this past October. The Conference served as a platform for leading scientific, industry, and policy-making experts to discuss AI and its impact on matters related to chemical disarmament and non-proliferation. Singapore firmly believes that all States, big or small, have a role to play in harnessing AI for the Public Good. We look forward to further collaboration on exploring the use of AI and other emerging technologies in the implementation of the CWC.

3 Singapore remains committed to the full and effective implementation of the Convention, and actively supports the activities of the OPCW and States Parties on assistance relating to and protection against chemical weapons. Singapore's DSO National Laboratories, with over 1,600 research scientists and engineers, continues to be certified as one of the OPCW's designated laboratories. Given our strong commitment to non-proliferation, we maintain a robust import and export control regime, consistent with our international obligations and drawing on the Multilateral Export Control Regimes, including the Australia Group. We take the implementation and enforcement of our legislation seriously, actively reviewing our policies and

amending legislation as necessary to update and strengthen controls on CWC-scheduled chemicals.

4           We also continue to collaborate with regional and international partners to build up our collective capabilities, with a view towards preventing the reemergence of chemical weapons. To this end, Singapore as the Secretariat of the Network of ASEAN Chemical, Biological and Radiological Defence Experts, jointly organised a virtual workshop with the OPCW on the “Interpretation of Mass Spectra Data” in June this year, to enhance the knowledge and skills necessary for effective utilisation of analytical tools in the region. Singapore also plays a part in the Temporary Working Group (TWG) on Chemical Forensics, under the Scientific Advisory Board, to review and advise on various aspects related to chemical forensics. Singapore stands ready to continue contributing to the work of the TWG.

Mr Chair,

5           I would like to reaffirm Singapore’s steadfast commitment to the obligations set forth in the Convention, and support for the Technical Secretariat in fully discharging its mandate. We remain dedicated to the vision of a world free of chemical weapons and look forward to working with States Parties and all relevant stakeholders in pursuit of this common objective.

6           In closing, I would like to request that this statement be circulated as an official document of the Conference. Thank you.

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