

الجمهورية العربية السورية Syrian Arab Republic

Statement delivered by H.E Ambassador Milad ATIEH Permanent Representative of Syrian Arab Republic To the OPCW

For the Twenty-Ninth Session of the Conference of The States Parties

Subitem 9(c): Implementation of the Conference of the States Parties and Executive Council Decisions on Destruction-related issues (China)

25th - 29th November 2024

Mr. Chairperson,

Completing the total destruction of Japanese weapons abandoned in China is an obligation that falls on Japan, and it is a legal and political responsibility that Japan must fulfill. We are concerned that Japan has not done what is required of it, and we urge it to intensify its efforts and adhere to the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the specific and agreed upon dates contained in the decisions of the Executive Council and the Conferences of the States Parties, in a comprehensive, complete and sincere manner, as well as to adhere to what has been agreed upon with the Chinese government.

We share with China its legitimate concern regarding the failure to complete this file to date. There are very great risks due to the continued presence of these weapons that are dangerous to the environment and humanity, now and in the future, in China and neighboring countries in the Asian region in general.

At the same time, we applaud China's efforts and the great assistance and facilitation it provides to Japanese teams working in China to complete this dangerous file. We also appreciate China's wise handling of this file, which causes many serious risks to lives and the environment in several areas in Chinese territory.

Thank you, and I ask that this statement to be considered an official document of the Twenty-Ninth Session of the Conference of States Parties, and published on the public OPCW website and Catalyst.