

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(d): Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use (Russia)

25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024

## Mr. Chairperson,

Since 2018 until now, at least, Western countries and those who orbit around them have worked to transform this Organization into a tool to exert more pressure on Russia, similar to what is happening in the United Nations and other International Organizations, through deliberate abuses to distort Russia's image.

If we are talking about what is happening here in the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, these countries have worked to direct false accusations that are completely baseless against Russia. In this regard, we recall what happened with Syria. The Syrian scenario was adopted and relied upon in dealing with Russia completely.

Consider with me the contents of the formulas in which these accusations were prepared. The suggestion that Russia is hiding a chemical program. Russia has used chemical weapons on more than one occasion, the most recent of which is the false accusation that Russia used riot control agents as a means of war in Ukraine. It is a repetition of the false accusations that were directed against my country, Syria.

The States Parties that are making these accusations are the same States that have worked and are still working to fuel the war against Russia, and have prevented and are preventing reaching any consensus, through negotiations and dialogue, that could lead to an end to the current situation in Ukraine, remove legitimate concerns related to Russian national security, and guarantee Russia the protection of its citizens.

Everything that Russia has provided during the period from October 2023 to November 2024, the latest of which is the Note Verbale of the Russian Representation to the Organization No. 66 dated November 12, 2024 and the important documents attached to it, which were prepared in a professional and scientific manner that confirms the credibility of the results reached by Russia, is confirmed by the following established facts:

Firstly, the involvement of Ukrainian forces in fabricating incidents of using chemical weapons, as well as the actual use of these weapons against Russian forces and civilians in eastern Ukraine.

Secondly, the Russian forces did not use riot control methods in the special military operation as a means of war, but rather they do not need to carry out such use.

Thirdly, Russia is keen to prove that the accusations against it are false, and therefore it has worked hard to cooperate with the countries accusing them, and Russia's behavior has been characterized by seriousness, transparency, and keenness to reveal the truth. Russia has expressed its readiness to conduct an independent and transparent

investigation by independent experts into any accusation directed at Russia, but the truth is that a large number of Western countries do not want to support Russia's aforementioned proposal.

The latest report issued by the Technical Secretariat under the title "Technical Assistance Team Visit Report", which is riddled with many professional flaws, confirms beyond any doubt how false reports are formulated and the way in which reports were adopted and issued regarding fabricated incidents in Syria, with the aim of accusing the Syrian government of them. The purpose of the "Technical Assistance Visit Team Report" at this particular time is as follows:

- 1. To establish false accusations against Russia of using chemical weapons.
  - 2. To distort and harm Russia's image.
  - 3. To exclude Russia from the Executive Council membership.
- 4. To build on this report in the future in order to take measures against Russia in this Organization.

We call on the States Parties to abide by the provisions of the Convention and not to politicize it to serve the narrow agendas of some countries that are now known to you.

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.