

**SPEECH BY MR. LUU HOANG NGOC – DEPUTY DIRECTOR
GENERAL OF VIETNAM CHEMICALS AGENCY – HEAD OF
VIETNAMESE DELEGATION AT THE TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF
THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES**

Mr. Chairman,

His Excellency Ambassador Fernando Arias, Director-General,

Distinguished delegates,

At the outset, on behalf of the Delegation of Viet Nam, please allow me to congratulate H.E. Ambassador Almir Sahovic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, for your election as the Chairman of the CSP twenty-ninth Session. Our congratulations also go to your fellow colleagues in the Bureau. I also wish to extend my salutation to all other Delegates to this Session. I believe that under your experienced and skillful leadership, and with the contributions of all delegations, our Session will be steered to a successful conclusion. Please rest assured, Mr. Chairman, of my delegation full support for your work for the fruitful outcome of this Session.

Mr. Chairman,

Being victim of prolonged wars involving various kinds of weapons, including toxic chemicals, Viet Nam is deeply aware of the severe and long-lasting consequences of those chemicals to human health, ecological environment and social-economic development. For this reason, and in line with its diplomacy of independence, openness, multilateralization and diversification of relations and willingness to be a friend and reliable partner of all countries, Viet Nam would like to:

First, reaffirm its consistent policy of supporting non-proliferation and disarmament of weapons of mass destruction, including chemical weapons, condemns any use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere, under any circumstances and for any reasons.

Second, support the implementation of the CWC, with the comprehensive and verified disarmament of chemical weapons and the implementation of all CWC pillars in an objective and balanced manner; support the work and efforts of the OPCW on the principle of transparency and impartiality, for supporting States Parties to effectively implement the CWC;

Third, commit to fully implementing its obligations under the CWC and the cooperation between Viet Nam and OPCW. We support enhancing international cooperation for improving capacity of States Parties to implement the CWC and develop the chemical industry for peaceful purposes, and request that the OPCW and the international community increase support for developing countries to implement this regulation;

(iv) Call for ensuring the legitimate rights and interests of all countries in

developing the chemical industry for peaceful purposes. Support the shift in the focus of OPCW's work from destroying chemical weapons to preventing chemical risks and developing the chemical industry in a safe and secure manner, in accordance with the current situation, and the annual budget as voluntary contributions should be allocated accordingly;

(v) Emphasize the need to focus on equitable representation and geographical balance in the appointment and recruitment of personnel in the OPCW; to create more favorable conditions for fully taking advantage of human resources from developing countries; Support the idea of building and replicating regional centers to connect resources to implement the Convention, including realizing the Initiative to establish the ASEAN Regional Center to further improve capacity to implement the CWC.

Mr. Chairman,

Viet Nam is among States Parties early signed the Chemical Weapons Convention in 1993 and ratified it in 1998. Throughout our journey with all other States Parties, we have consistently demonstrated our strong commitment to the implementation of the CWC, through the development and enhancement of our legal framework, with significant implementations in 2005, 2014, and most recently in 2024.

I am pleased to inform that our most notable, and latest achievement in implementing the Convention in 2024 is the promulgation of Decree No. 33/2024/ND-CP in last March, which replaces previous Decree No. 38/2014/ND-CP. This new decree marks a significant advancement in our legislative framework, for introducing the most comprehensive improvements in managing scheduled chemicals under the Convention.

At the same time, the Decree modernizes our regulatory approach by updating chemical schedules, including four new additions to Schedule 1, while aligning investment conditions with our Investment Law. It strengthens our management system through enhanced regulations on permits, business conditions, and verification protocols, while streamlining procedures for DOC and DOC-PSF facilities. Notably, the Decree establishes a much more effective governance structure, by clearly defining the responsibilities of various state agencies, local authorities, supported by appropriate transitional provisions to ensure the smooth implementation of related national regulations and the CWC.

Furthermore, we are currently working on amending our Chemicals Law for the period 2024-2025, where strengthening chemical security management, including implementation of the CWC, remains one of our key policy priorities.

Mr. Chairman,

Viet Nam appreciates the efforts and achievements of the Technical Secretariat and the States Parties in implementing the Convention. While numerous challenges lie ahead in the path towards its complete implementation,

Viet Nam firmly believe that, with the continued efforts of the OPCW and the comprehensive support and cooperation from all of the State Parties, these challenges can be transformed into opportunities to reach all our set goals.

In this regard, we look forward to the continued assistance and technical support from the OPCW and other States Parties to enhance our capacity for the implementation of the Convention and to develop our chemical industry for peaceful purposes.

Viet Nam remains committed to supporting the OPCW and to working with all States Parties towards a successful Conference and attaining the common goals of the Chemical Weapons Convention, for further contributions to international peace, security and prosperity for all countries.

In conclusion, Mr. Charman, we request that this Statement be circulated as an official document of the Conference and posted on website of the OPCW.

May I wish this Twenty-ninth Session to conclude in success.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman,

Thank you, distinguished Delegates, for your attention.