

**Algeria: Statement of H.E. Ambassador Salima Abdelhak, Permanent representative of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to the OPCW at the 107th session of the Executive Council under agenda item 10 related to Emerging technologies**

**The Hague, October 10, 2024**

At the outset, my delegation commends the inclusion of emerging technologies as a new item to the Executive Council's agenda with the support of all State Parties and for a good reason. In today's world, advanced technology is increasingly dominant and poses a threat of supplanting and competing us. We therefore must embrace it as an ally to help us tackle the challenges we face. This is also true for artificial intelligence, it is essential to master its opportunities and challenges to maximize its potential.

This is especially important as Artificial intelligence is increasingly being addressed in relation to peace and security in several international forums, including UN bodies and agencies, as highlighted by numerous resolutions, the latest adopted by the UN General Assembly in March 2024. When we talk about peace and security, we also refer to the OPCW and the CWC.

Several questions arise regarding the implication of AI in CWC and how can it enhance specific aspects of it. The verification regime, the enhancement of safety and security management systems of chemical industry, and the analysis of documents related to ACW all stand to benefit from this new technology, if possible. It is also crucial to consider how we can mitigate the risks associated with AI, particularly to the development, deployment, and use of chemical weapons by terrorist groups.

These questions have already been raised by the Director-General, who initiated discussions on the impact of AI on the implementation of the CWC and its evolving challenges. We commend his forward-thinking approach, which strengthens our organization's commitment to staying fit to purpose organisation. We appreciate the ongoing discussions on this matter, whether through national initiatives or in collaboration with the OPCW, aimed at revealing the many undiscovered aspects of AI in relation to CWC. We look forward to hearing about their insights and to enhancing them within the new agenda item in the EC sessions, and the future SAB working group for potential outcomes to be adopted exclusively within the OPCW's decision-making bodies.

Algeria is committed to contribute in AI discussions within the different mechanisms of our Organisation.