

Algeria: Statement on behalf of 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 8: Countering chemical terrorism

The Hague , October 10, 2024

The risk of Chemical terrorism particularly through the potential use of chemical weapons by terrorist groups and non-state actors, especially in zones of tension where they might be involved constitutes a significant concern that should deserve our full attention.

The threat of reemergence remains real as Chemical Weapons can at any time fall in wrong hands beyond any control.

Considering these facts, countering chemical terrorism should continue to be dealt through in-depth discussions within our Organisation. In this regard, we commend the efforts made by the OPCW in fighting chemical terrorism especially the work done under OEWG on Terrorism under the chairmanship of the Ambassador of South Africa. The group constitutes a valuable platform to discuss the matter and to explore the appropriate ways to tackle this problem efficiently and collectively.

We value the activities conducted by the OPCW in supporting States Parties to prevent and to respond to any terrorist chemical attack or incident especially under article 10 as illustrated during the Chemex Africa 2023.

We highlight also the importance of the adoption and the reinforcement of the national legislation to counter chemical terrorism that should be in the center of our action. In addition, we should continue promoting safety and security in chemical industries, fostering the control of cross -border transfers of toxic chemicals products to prevent illicit transfers of the chemical products through appropriate cooperation with other international organisation including the World customs organisation.

We highlight in this regard the Table-Top exercise on chemical terrorism organized, in 2023 to which Algeria has contributed as well as the survey made on this matter and its conclusions and take-away for an action plan on the matter.

My delegation stands committed to contribute in further discussions on the matter.

Thank you