



**STATEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION  
BY ENIKŐ PETŐHÁZI  
COUNSELLOR AT THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF HUNGARY  
TO THE OPCW  
AT THE 107th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
(The Hague, 8 – 11 October 2024)**

**Agenda item 10 – Emerging technologies**

I have the honour of speaking on behalf of the European Union.

The Candidate Countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Türkiye and Ukraine as well as Armenia and the EFTA (European Free Trade Association) countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the EEA (European Economic Area) align themselves with this statement. Andorra, Monaco and San Marino also associate themselves with this statement.

Emerging technologies, including Artificial Intelligence (AI), will potentially pose a major challenge to the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in the post-destruction era. Given the expeditious progress, it is of paramount importance that the Secretariat deepens its understanding of these technologies. The EU believes this should be an inclusive process with active participation of all States Parties and input from external experts and civil society.

The European Union welcomes the work undertaken by the Secretariat to map out the ramifications of the AI and the associated risks and opportunities to the object and purpose of the Convention so far. We welcome contributions from States Parties, including the conference on AI and weapons of mass destruction on 28 June 2024 in Berlin, and look forward to the Conference in Rabat on 22-24 October 2024.

The European Union underlines the importance of the Secretariat monitoring the developments of the AI and potential risks posed, as well as identifying possible opportunities to apply AI technologies to the work of the OPCW. In this context, the EU is pleased co-finance with the United Kingdom the on-going AI Research Challenge as part of the EU's voluntary financial contribution in support of the OPCW activities. We stand ready to support further efforts to inform future policy discussions and decisions through the Secretariat and the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), including by sharing information, e.g. on the European Union comprehensive AI legislation, the "AI Act".

I would kindly ask you to consider this statement as an official document of the One-Hundred and Seventh Session of the Executive Council.

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