



**NEW ZEALAND
STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR SUSANNAH GORDON
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF NEW ZEALAND TO THE OPCW
AT THE 107th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Thank you Chair,

I spoke earlier in this session on Agenda item 11(k) on rehiring of inspectors.

In terms of follow up to the Review Conference, it seems to me that the question of limited rehiring for a broader range of professional staff beyond inspectors is a matter that deserves further discussion. There was a lot of support for this last year when we held the tenure policy discussions.

I concluded that targeted and exceptional re-hiring could be a tool to enhance geographic representation and gender balance while also ensuring the TS gets the best qualified staff. We all agreed on the need to uphold the non-career nature of our organisation, as others have mentioned today, but at the same time, to give the Director-General the ability and flexibility to manage the TS so it can best deliver on its mandate as set out in the Convention.

Thank you.