



الجمهورية العربية
السورية
Syrian Arab Republic

Statement Delivered By

H.E Ambassador Milad ATIEH

Permanent Representative of Syrian Arab Republic

To the OPCW

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Mr. Chairperson,

We wish you success in managing the work of this session. My country's delegation joins the statement of the Non-Aligned Movement and China that was presented by Her Excellency the Ambassador of Uganda to this session. The Syrian Arab Republic has implemented all its obligations under the process of its accession to the Convention, and has fully cooperated with the Technical Secretariat of the Organization and its teams providing all the facilitation required for the success of its tasks. During the period from November 2023 to September 2024, four rounds of consultations were held between the experts of the Syrian National Authority and the Declarations Assessment Team (DAT), where in addition to all the required cooperation Syria has provided documents, explanations and information on many issues. However, it is regrettable that the Technical Secretariat's continues its deviation from the principle of neutrality, integrity and professionalism specified by the Chemical Weapons Convention in all its reports related to the Syrian chemical file. This approach is unparalleled in many international

organizations of a technical nature, and can only be interpreted within the framework of tactical steps aimed at creating a hostile atmosphere where politicized decisions against Syria can be taken in the Policy-Making Organs of the Organization, in a manner that serves the agendas of the United States of America and some Western countries against Syria.

Mr. Chairperson,

Western countries continue to violate the texts and provisions of the Convention by adopting and passing politicized decisions through voting and deviating from consensus. The latest violation of the Convention was when Western countries adopted a politicized decision through voting at the 28th Session of the Conference of the States Parties against Syria. In addition, they violated what is stipulated in paragraph 23 of Article 8 of the Convention, by excluding the Russian Federation from membership in the Executive Council, as an additional step to what many Western countries are doing to target the Russian

Federation, especially its recent attempts to direct false and completely baseless accusations against Russia for using toxic chemicals as weapons in Ukraine. As a result of the hegemony and pressure exerted by the United States of America and some Western countries, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons has turned into an arena for settling aggressive colonial geopolitical scores with some countries that do not conform to its policies. As a result of political interference by Western countries, the Organization is currently facing an internal crisis of credibility, disagreements, polarization and divisions. All countries that care about this Organization, its reputation and its future should take into consideration the serious warnings contained in the letter of the Berlin Group 21 dated 18 July 2024, which was circulated to all States Parties and the Technical Secretariat, as well as the report issued in the European Parliament entitled: “The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Chemical Weapons Convention – The Way Forward” prepared by MEPs Claire Daly and Mike Wallace. In its letter,

the group stressed that the future of the Organization and the restoration of its credibility can only come through ensuring its full return to work within the framework of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Mr. Chairperson,

We affirm our support for the State of Palestine's request to investigate the incidents of the Zionist entity's use of chemical weapons against the Palestinian people in Gaza and the West Bank. We call on the Technical Secretariat to take action and carry out its tasks in accordance with its mandate. These heinous crimes are part of the genocidal war carried out by the Israeli occupation forces for nearly a year, which has led to the martyrdom of more than 42,000 people, most of whom are children and women, the injury of more than 120,000 others, and the destruction of more than 90 percent of homes and buildings in the Strip, with direct political and military support from the United States of America and some Western countries. At the same time, brotherly Lebanon is still facing a treacherous and ongoing barbaric

aggression that has resulted in the martyrdom and injury of thousands of civilians, and the displacement of more than a million people as a result of systematic Israeli air and ground bombardment that has destroyed thousands of homes and turned entire residential areas and villages into rubble, in flagrant violation of the rules of international law and international humanitarian law, taking advantage of American support and the international inability to stop these crimes and the umbrella of protection provided to it by the United States of America and its Western allies. The Israeli entity also continues its repeated aggression on Syrian territory, which has claimed the lives of dozens of civilian martyrs and injured hundreds of innocent people. With regard to chemical terrorism, the Syrian Arab Republic calls on all States Parties to the Convention to abide by the provisions of paragraph 18 of Security Council Resolution 2118, and all relevant resolutions issued by the Executive Council of the Organization and the Security Council of the United Nations. We note in this regard that the remaining strongholds of international terrorism on Syrian territory are spread across areas under

the control of the American and Turkish occupations in northeastern, northwestern and southeastern Syria.

Mr. Chairperson,

Finally, Syria affirms that achieving the universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention will not be achieved without obligating Israel to join the Chemical Weapons Convention and other international agreements related to the prevention of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

We call on all countries that care about this Organization and international law and international humanitarian law to take the necessary measures to oblige Western countries, especially the United States of America, to stop imposing unilateral coercive measures that are illegal and immoral, the disastrous effects of which have impacted all aspects of the daily lives of Syrians and citizens of many other countries,

in flagrant violation of the provisions of Articles 10 and 11 of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Thank you, and I hope that this statement will be considered an official document of the 107th Session of the Executive Council, and published on the public OPCW website and Catalyst.