

Statement by the Delegation of Japan to the OPCW at the 108th
Session of the Executive Council
Under Agenda Item 7

The potential use of chemical weapons by non-state actors has been recognized as a growing risk in the effort to achieve a world free of chemical weapons, posing an increasing threat to all nations.

In this regard, Japan commends the OPCW's proactive actions in implementing measures to prevent chemical terrorism. We also extend our appreciation to Ambassador Vusimuzi Philemon Madonsela of South Africa for leading the discussion in the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism to fulfil the OPCW's mandate against chemical terrorism.

Japan would like to recall that this year marks the 30th anniversary of the Tokyo subway sarin attack. This tragic event serves as a strong reminder that the threat of chemical terrorism is not a relic of the past but a persistent and evolving danger. The use of chemical weapons by any actor, including non-state actors, is unacceptable and must be condemned in the strongest terms.

Japan is pleased to contribute to these efforts by sharing our experiences at the side event following the morning session today, and we would like to reaffirm our unwavering dedication to the fulfilment of the OPCW's mandate.