



**OPCW**

**Conference of the States Parties**

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ENGLISH and FRENCH only

**ANDORRA**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF ANDORRA  
TO THE OPCW AT THE TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION  
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES**

Mr Chairperson,  
Mr Director-General,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

To begin, the Principality of Andorra aligns itself with the statement of the European Union; we would also like to make some remarks in a national capacity.

As a country with a small territory, Andorra owes its survival to the existence and respect of the rules of the international law system and multilateralism.

Currently we are 193 States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (“the Convention”); 193 countries that believe that the OPCW is the best tool for fighting the threat of the use of chemical weapons.

Over the past few years, chemical weapons have unfortunately been used on several occasions. The use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere, at any time, and under any circumstances constitutes a violation of the Convention and can be equated with the most serious international crimes—war crimes and crimes against humanity. Andorra therefore strongly condemns the use of chemical weapons.

Following Syria’s violations of the Convention, Andorra voted in favour of the decision put forward to the Conference of the States Parties (“the Conference”) at its Fourth Special Session in June 2018, and ever since supports the work of the Investigation and Identification Team (IIT) for Syria. Accordingly, we align ourselves with the joint statement delivered by France.

We also condemn the poisoning of Mr Navalny.

Faced with the responsibility of carrying out its duties, we praise the professionalism, impartiality, and well-established technical expertise of the Technical Secretariat, and take this opportunity to reiterate our trust and support in it. Andorra congratulates the Director-General, Ambassador Arias, for his leadership, and extends to him its support for the renewal of his mandate.

In order to allow the OPCW to properly discharge the duties that have been entrusted to it, Andorra will vote in favour of the Programme and Budget for 2022–2023 proposed by the Director-General.



This year, Andorra decided to make an additional contribution to the ChemTech Centre in the amount of EUR 5,000. With a total contribution of EUR 16,000 over three years, Andorra seeks to demonstrate its commitment to this project to ensure that it is operational as soon as its doors open. Andorra also continues to support the essential work of the International Support Network for Victims of Chemical Weapons.

Andorra further adds its voice to those who spoke in favour of including civil society in our debates, to make them as transparent and representative as possible.

We would ask that this statement be published as an official document of this session of the Conference and that it be posted on the external server and public website of the OPCW.

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