



OPCW

Executive Council

Ninety-Ninth Session

8 – 10 March 2022

EC-99/NAT.34

8 March 2022

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

EL SALVADOR

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR TO
THE OPCW AT THE NINETY-NINTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Madam Chairperson of the Executive Council,
Your Excellency, Director-General,
Your Excellencies, Permanent Representatives,
Members and observers of the Executive Council,
Distinguished authorities of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,

First of all, I would like to extend our gratitude to H.E. Abdelouahab Bellouki, Ambassador of Morocco, the previous Chairperson of the Executive Council, for his commendable effort in managing the work of this Council. Likewise, I warmly welcome and congratulate H.E. Eniola Olaitan Ajayi, Ambassador of Nigeria, as she assumes the chairmanship of this session of the Council.

El Salvador reiterates its commitment to the full and effective implementation of the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention, and condemns the use of chemical weapons and toxic chemicals, while advocating for the universality of the Convention and strengthening the OPCW as an organisation.

We value the various efforts made by the Director-General and the Secretariat of the OPCW in overseeing the implementation of the Convention, as well as the reports presented to this Council.

In the case of the Syrian Arab Republic, we encourage a deeper spirit of collaboration between the OPCW and the Syrian authorities with the aim of achieving the desired results.

My delegation expresses its gratitude to the International Cooperation and Assistance Division for the counsel provided to our National Authority within the framework of developing national standards that incorporate the provisions of the Convention within our own legal framework. We hope that we will be able to have this standard in place this year and, in doing so, meet the spirit of the Convention.

Within this context, we trust that the work under way to prepare for the Fifth Review Conference, in which El Salvador will be actively participating through the Open-Ended Working Group, will assign a high level of importance to cooperation and assistance in favour of the States Parties in the peaceful use of chemicals.



We are pleased to have contributed to the progress made in the construction of the Centre for Chemistry and Technology; the vision that the Director-General has for the Centre will no doubt lead to the strengthening of scientific, technological, and chemical knowledge among national actors.

We recognise the importance of the organisational governance facilitation; we wish the very best for the Ambassador of Australia and the Ambassador of Panama as they take on this task.

With regard to the development of the tenure policy, while it would be possible to add more flexibility to the terms of tenure of the Secretariat staff, we do find it necessary to keep in mind the aspects of balanced geographical representation and gender parity. We have not forgotten that GRULAC is represented by the smallest percentage among Secretariat staff.

In conclusion, El Salvador wishes to express its gratitude for the confidence placed in us as we assume one of the vice-chairmanships of the Executive Council in representation of GRULAC.

I kindly request that this statement be considered an official document of the Ninety-Ninth Session of the Executive Council and published on the Organisation's website and extranet.

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