



OPCW

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ENGLISH and SPANISH only

EL SALVADOR

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR TO
THE OPCW AT THE 100TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

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

El Salvador aligns itself with the delegations that have expressed their congratulations to Ambassador Ziad M.D. Al Atiyah upon his appointment as Chairperson of the Executive Council for the period of 2022 – 2023. We reiterate our commitment as Vice-Chair representing GRULAC as we come together for the work of the Bureau.

We reiterate our recognition of the management of Director-General Fernando Arias and the Technical Secretariat, in which we have put our confidence as a country.

We congratulate everyone on the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the entry-into-force of the Chemical Weapons Convention, one of the most successful international instruments, which has led to achieving a 99% destruction of declared chemical weapons. While this commemoration is indeed a reason for congratulations as a State Party, we also set ourselves the challenge of continuing to ensure prevention and the peaceful use of chemicals, including the improper use of such by non-State actors.

My country supports international peace and security toward achieving a world free of chemical weapons, and we reaffirm our commitment to the full and effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention, as well as the organisational strengthening of the OPCW.

We value the prompt approach to tackling the OPCW's project for the Centre for Chemistry and Technology.

On this occasion, El Salvador wishes to express its gratitude for the assistance provided to our National Authority, the Ministry of Defence, in developing our Special Law on the Prohibition, Development, Production, Stockpiling, Use, and Destruction of Chemical Weapons, which will be presented to our Legislative Assembly in the near future.

In light of the above, my country reiterates the importance of prioritising cooperation and assistance for the benefit of the States Parties, and in particular in terms of scientific investigation and chemical technology, towards preventing the production of chemical weapons.



It is with great pleasure that El Salvador confirms that it will serve as the host country for the regional workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean on best practices in the development of legislative and regulatory issues relevant to chemical security. This will help us strengthen the institutional capacity of our countries and exchange knowledge and good practices in areas pertinent to chemical security. From here, we commit ourselves to ensuring the success of this event, having initiated the appropriate coordination with the National Authorities and the Technical Secretariat.

On behalf of the National Authority of El Salvador, jointly with the OPCW's International Cooperation and Assistance Division, we extend an invitation and hope we can count on your participation.

On the other hand, El Salvador commits to actively participating in the preparations for the Fifth Review Conference in the search for ways to strengthen the implementation of the Convention.

The universality of the Convention continues to be a priority for our country, as well as the condemnation of the use of chemical weapons by anyone, under any circumstances.

In conclusion, we uphold our support for the desire of the countries in the Latin American and Caribbean region to strengthen and promote balanced geographical representation across the personnel of the Secretariat. We believe it is a good time to put into place more effective and transparent mechanisms concerning the recruitment of candidates from regions that are underrepresented within the OPCW's professional and qualified team.

I kindly request that this statement be considered an official document of the 100th Session of the Executive Council and published on the Organisation's website and extranet.

Thank you.

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