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ENGLISH and RUSSIAN only

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR A.V. SHULGIN  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE  
OPCW AT THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE  
STATES PARTIES UNDER AGENDA ITEM 3**

Mr Chairperson,

First, I would like to express our gratitude to you, Mr Chairperson, and to the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, for the clear-cut and professional conduct of the vote in full compliance with the Organisation's existing procedures. We would like to thank all the countries that supported Russia's candidacy for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Conference of the States Parties.

We are not surprised by the results of the vote. We understand how difficult it can be to stand against such powerful pressure exerted upon the delegations, organised by the United States and its allies in the Euro-Atlantic bloc, to promote the bids of Latvia and Croatia for the position of Vice-Chairmanship.

The events of the past days and the results of the vote have only confirmed what we have been speaking about at this session: NATO countries, led by the United States and certain other States that have joined them have taken it upon themselves to usurp the full extent of authority within our Organisation, including by pushing through, by any means possible, "their" own representatives into the policy-making organs of the OPCW. It is likely no surprise for any delegations with the ability to think for themselves that this "election campaign" for the candidacies of Latvia and Croatia, which officially are part of the Eastern Europe Group, was orchestrated by the United States, Canada, and a number of Western European countries.

The statement delivered by Albania on behalf of 18 Eastern European countries is illuminating. It illustrates the actual goals and tasks of the so-called group of Euro-Atlantic reformers of the OPCW, as well as their approaches towards carrying those out.

If this group does not like the independent policy of another State Party to the OPCW, then they can easily allow themselves to state that they "do not wish to be represented" by that State. In this regard, we would note that historically, all regional groups of the OPCW, save for the Western European Group, are made up of countries among which there is serious tension, and sometimes even insurmountable differences. Some of these issues sometimes transition into an active armed conflict. Yet even so, none of these countries or a majority group of States, as far as we know, have ever made any such statement.



The Western coalition is actively pushing the idea that if any member of the OPCW has conflicts with members of the Euro-Atlantic alliance or the countries that support it, then they are going to create problems for their work in the Organisation, even if it obviously undermines our common efforts in chemical non-proliferation and disarmament.

If one follows the logic of these 18 countries, then they should be consistent to the end and create difficulties not only for the work of the Russian Federation, but for their allies in the military and political bloc. However, as we see, that is not what is happening. This is just more evidence of double standards and blatant anti-Russian “fixation” among these sham champions of international law.

I request that this statement be circulated as an official document of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Conference of the States Parties and published on the Catalyst platform and the OPCW website.

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