



OPCW

Conference of the States Parties

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**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
DELIVERED BY H.E. AMBASSADOR JOANNEKE BALFOORT
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY
AT THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE
OF THE STATES PARTIES UNDER AGENDA ITEM 13**

I have the honour of speaking on behalf of the European Union.

Mr Chairperson,

The Chemical Weapons Convention is a key instrument of the global non-proliferation architecture. A predictable and solid financial base is required to reach a world free of chemical weapons. The Director-General's proposed revision of the Programme and Budget for 2023 enables the OPCW to continue its vital work including cooperation and assistance projects.

In this context, the European Union calls upon all States Parties to pay their assessed contributions in full and on time. At the same time, under the currently more challenging financial conditions, the Technical Secretariat is required to practice strict budgetary discipline so that the Organisation can continue to fulfil all its objectives.

The Candidate Countries Albania, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Türkiye, and Ukraine, the potential candidate countries Bosnia and Herzegovina and Georgia, and the EFTA (European Free Trade Association) countries Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway, members of the EEA (European Economic Area) align themselves with this statement. Andorra, Monaco, and San Marino also associate themselves with this statement.

I would kindly ask you to consider this statement as an official document of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Conference of the States Parties and post it on the OPCW external server and public website.

Thank you.

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