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ROMANIA

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR LUCIAN FĂTU
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ROMANIA TO THE OPCW
AT THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES
PARTIES UNDER AGENDA ITEM 9(D)**

Mr Chairperson,

First of all, allow me to congratulate you, H.E. Ambassador Vusimuzi Philemon Madonsela of the Republic of South Africa, on your election as Chairperson of the current session of the Conference of the States Parties, and I wish you success in your mission and to express Romania's support during your mandate. I would also like to thank H.E. Ambassador Bård Ivar Svendsen of Norway, the Chairperson of the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Conference of the States Parties.

Romania fully subscribes to the statements of the European Union made on this agenda item. At the same time, Romania is a co-sponsor of the joint statement of like-minded States Parties regarding Ukraine. Our actions were not done as simple diplomatic statements. These are a reiteration of the fact that, despite these terrible times we live in, we are more united than ever.

We cannot ignore that the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine is a violation of our values, and a serious violation of international law and international commitments, including in connection with the Chemical Weapons Convention ("the Convention").

In this context, we need to renew the appeal for the Russian Federation to stop its premeditated, unjustified, and unprovoked aggression against Ukraine. We must continue to condemn all Russian disinformation campaigns, notably regarding allegations of provocations using chemical agents in Ukraine. Undermining democracy is an insidious process that we must tackle. Such provocations, including "false flag" actions, would be irresponsible and could have grave humanitarian consequences.

We urge the Technical Secretariat to continue to monitor the situation and to inform all States Parties about the developments. In this difficult context, the States Parties must protect international law and the Convention even more strongly.

I kindly request that this statement be considered an official document of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Conference of the States Parties and published on the OPCW external server and public website. Thank you, Mr Chairperson.

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