



**OPCW**

**Conference of the States Parties**

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ENGLISH and SPANISH only

**ARGENTINA**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC TO THE  
OPCW AT THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE  
STATES PARTIES**

Mr Chairperson,  
Mr Director-General,  
Esteemed colleagues,

First, I would like to thank Ambassador Bård Ivar Svendsen of Norway for his work as Chairperson of the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Conference of the States Parties, and welcome the new authorities, while reaffirming Argentina's commitment to cooperation to build a consensus.

Likewise, Argentina wishes to reiterate its support for and recognition of the work of the Director-General, Ambassador Fernando Arias, and the Technical Secretariat.

I reaffirm Argentina's unwavering commitment to the policies of disarmament and non-proliferation, as well as international cooperation and the need to guarantee the sovereign right to research and development of technologies for peaceful purposes, in accordance with international commitments and national legislative frameworks.

I would underscore once more the position that the use of chemical weapons, by anyone, anywhere, and under any circumstances, is unacceptable and constitutes a flagrant violation of the international obligations stemming from international law, including the Convention, and that all those responsible for their use must be brought to justice.

I would also express concern surrounding the issues that remain outstanding, and I call upon the Syrian authorities to cooperate with the investigation in order to finally be able to close this country's dossier; I reiterate support for the investigators.

I underscore the importance of making progress in verifying the complete elimination of chemical weapons, while also calling upon all States to meet their obligations under the Convention and the decisions of the Organisation. I call upon those that are not yet members to accede to the Convention.

Argentina recalls the need to continue efforts towards achieving balanced geographic distribution across the posts of the Technical Secretariat, as well as adequate gender balance. In this regard Argentina supports the statement on gender balance delivered by Colombia and a group of countries wishing to make progress in that area.



I would also like to voice our appreciation for the important work carried out by the experts on the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach and the Scientific Advisory Board, the members of which include distinguished professionals from our country.

I would underscore the presentation of the candidacy of Ambassador Gustavo Zlauvinen to the Confidentiality Commission and express our gratitude for the support that we expect he will receive.

Additionally, I would like to reiterate our country's commitment to the Organisation, and recall that over the course of 2022, the National Authority of Argentina organised two courses together with the Technical Secretariat: first, together with the International Cooperation Branch, the ninth advanced course on emergency chemical response for GRULAC States Parties was held (from 5 to 10 September in Buenos Aires), and second, together with the Assistance and Protection Branch, the fourth course on security and protection at chemical laboratories was held (from 24 to 27 October in Buenos Aires).

Likewise, Argentina contributed instructors for the following training courses: the online course on emergency response to chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals for first responders, specifically for the module on decontamination; the basic course on responding to incidents involving chemical warfare agents and toxic industrial chemicals for States Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean (held in Panama, from 18 to 22 April; and finally, the regional table-top exercise in chemical emergency response for States Parties in Latin America and the Caribbean (held in Quito, Ecuador, from 6 to 10 June).

Finally, I would highlight that the National Authority coordinated the twenty-third Meeting of the National Authorities of Latin America and the Caribbean, which took place virtually from 14 to 16 June 2022.

Along these lines, I would be pleased to express appreciation for the awarding of the OPCW-The Hague Award in 2022 to a leading institution from my country: the CBRN Division of the Federal Police, which—in addition to being the first agent to respond in the case of a chemical, biological, or radiological incident—has been the institution that historically and generously has shared its knowledge through training courses in our region.

I would like to conclude by applauding the steps that are being taken in preparation for the Fifth Review Conference scheduled for May 2023, and reiterate the support of the Argentine delegation for the work of the Conference of the States Parties in support of the Convention.

I kindly request that this statement be processed as an official document and published on the Catalyst platform.

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