



**OPCW**

**Review Conference**

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**THAILAND**

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR CHATRI ARCHJANANUN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND TO THE OPCW AT THE FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION**

Mr Chairperson,  
Director-General,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset, I wish to express my delegation's support to H.E. Ambassador Henk Cor van der Kwast of the Netherlands as the Chairperson of the Fifth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (Fifth Review Conference). I am certain that your able leadership and guidance will bring the successful session of the Fifth Review Conference.

Thailand aligns itself with the statement submitted on behalf of the Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement that are States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention and China, and the statement on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Since its entry into force in 1997, the Chemical Weapons Convention ("the Convention") has been one of the most successful conventions upholding the norms against the use of weapons of mass destruction. The number of 193 States Parties covering over 98% of the global population, and the destruction of 99% of the chemical weapons stockpiles declared by possessor States, clearly demonstrates the universalisation and the success of the Convention.

Despite the success, the confirmed use of chemical weapons in various parts of the world, including the use of these weapons by non-State actors, still poses serious challenges to the global community. Thus, it is crucial for the global community to take this opportunity at the Fifth Review Conference to work together to strengthen the Convention and set our path for the future. Thailand believes that our priorities at this Review Conference should be as follows:

First, we need to build trust amongst each other. This Review Conference serves as an important opportunity for us to reiterate their unequivocal commitment to upholding the principles of the Convention – to build trust and confidence amongst the States Parties. For Thailand, we reaffirm our full commitment to upholding the norms against the existence and use of chemical weapons. The use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere, and under any circumstances, is not acceptable; and the perpetrators should be held accountable.



Second, we must work together to enhance collective transboundary chemical security without hampering development. The global chemical security regime also relies upon the effective national implementation of each and every State Party. For Thailand, we have adopted various necessary measures, including the control measures on the production, acquisition, storage, use and transfer of toxic chemical substances through the ‘Hazardous Substance Act B.E. 2535 (1992)’ and its amendment.

As international peace and security cannot be achieved by a single country, cooperation and assistance under Article XI of the Convention, is thus an essential element which helps to strengthen the effective national implementation to ensure the safety and responsible use of chemical substances in legitimate activities for peaceful purposes. The transfer of technologies and sharing of best practices would help raise the standards of the industrial sector and contribute towards more robust collective transboundary chemical security without hampering economic development.

Third, we need to strengthen the pivotal role of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). Thailand supports the OPCW’s central role and work in carrying out its mandated tasks—especially in verification—to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention. Our National Authority, the Department of Industrial Works, has also been fully cooperating with the Organisation, including by regularly submitting the annual report and cooperating on the industry inspections. Thailand would like to commend the hard work of OPCW, especially in convening international cooperation programmes to promote economic and technological development.

Lastly, we must ensure that the Convention has become truly universal. To achieve the objective of the Convention, we urge States not Party to join the Convention at the earliest. We also encourage the States in a position to do so to enhance their technical support to these States.

In closing, Thailand wishes this Review Conference a successful outcome. We hope all sides can join hands to achieve our common objective of eliminating all chemical weapons. We shall work together to make this world a safer place for generations to come.

We would like to request to have this statement issued as an official document of the Fifth Review Conference and posted on both the OPCW external server and the public website.

Thank you.

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