



OPCW

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INDONESIA

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR I GUSTI AGUNG WESAKA PUJA
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
TO THE OPCW
AT THE EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

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

Allow me to take this opportunity to congratulate you, Madam Chairperson, in assuming the chairpersonship of the Executive Council. My delegation stands ready to support you and we are confident of your able leadership.

I would like to express our appreciation to the Director-General, Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü, for his comprehensive statement, and commend him and the Technical Secretariat for the tremendous work done regarding the implementation of the Convention and the promotion of our common goal of a world free of the chemical weapons.

My delegation also associates itself with the statement delivered by Ambassador Haifa Aissami Madah of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement that are States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention and China.

The work that we are doing in the OPCW, ultimately, we do to achieve our common goal of a world free of chemical weapons. We firmly believe that this goal could be achieved through the universality of the Convention, full compliance with it, and the effective implementation of all of its provisions by the States Parties.

At this juncture, I wish to welcome the State of Palestine as the 193rd member of the OPCW. This addition signifies an important step in the right direction regarding universal adherence to the Chemical Weapons Convention. We also call upon the remaining States still outside the Convention to become members without delay, thus solidifying the Convention as the most effective non-proliferation instrument. Furthermore, the destruction of all declared chemical weapons, as well as all old and abandoned chemical weapons must be completed by all States Parties under the obligations of the Convention.

Indonesia once again reiterates its strong condemnation of the use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere, under any circumstances, and for whatever reasons. It is reprehensible and



a grave violation of the Convention and all norms of international law. Achieving a world free of chemical weapons includes accountability for those responsible for their use.

With the adoption of the decision in the recent special session, all States Parties should reinvigorate their mutual trust, and demonstrate stronger political will through resolute efforts in good faith for the full implementation of the Convention. Indonesia strongly believes that any divergence of views or interpretation of the Convention should continue to be discussed intensively and in a constructive manner, in order to unite views and cast away any doubts that may lead to possible misinterpretations.

In this regard, Indonesia stands ready to continue deliberating and discussing these issues through various avenues, including through the Open-Ended Working Group for the Preparation of the Fourth Review Conference, in order to ultimately achieve our common goal.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to all for entrusting Indonesia, together with the Ambassador of Canada, as co-coordinators of the “Friends of the OPCW Laboratory Group”. With your support, we are confident that the upcoming laboratory project will be successful, and key to enhancing the capacity and cooperation of States Parties.

As this will be the final Executive Council meeting for the Director-General, my delegation wishes to congratulate the outgoing Director-General, Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü, and his team for their utmost dedication and achievements. The big, loud, and long applause from the floor at the end of the Director-General’s statement yesterday is self-explanatory, and reflective of his great leadership and outstanding achievements. I wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

For the meantime, let me assure you of my country's continued support for, and cooperation with, Ambassador Fernando Arias upon him the taking up his solemn duty as Director-General.

I should not end my statement without expressing my appreciation and admiration to H.E. Ambassador Sheikh Mohammed Belal of Bangladesh for his leadership as the previous Executive Council Chairperson. I see him with a wider smile now.

I would like to request that this statement be circulated as an official document of the session and be published on the OPCW website.

Thank You.

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