



OPCW

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SINGAPORE

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR JAYA RATNAM
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SINGAPORE TO THE OPCW
AT THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES**

EXPLANATION OF VOTE

Mr Chairperson,
Director-General,
Distinguished delegates,

Thank you for giving Singapore an opportunity to explain our vote in favour of the draft decision tabled by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Recent incidents involving the use of chemical weapons pose a threat to the rules-based international order and are a violation of the international norm against the use of chemical weapons.

Singapore condemns the use of chemical weapons and therefore supported the draft decision tabled by the United Kingdom, as it seeks to improve and strengthen the role of the OPCW Technical Secretariat to enable it to better fulfil its mandate.

Our overriding objective is to ensure that there is effective implementation of the Convention, which includes addressing any issues of non-compliance or contravention of its provisions.

We should act with unified intent and, to this end, any proposals to strengthen the capability of the Technical Secretariat should involve inclusive and comprehensive consultations with States Parties, in accordance with the Convention.

Likewise, any proposals put forth by the Director-General on the provision of technical expertise to States Parties to identify perpetrators, organisers, sponsors and those otherwise involved in the use of chemical weapons, should involve inclusive and comprehensive consultations with States Parties to ensure that the decision-making process ultimately is effective, transparent, and accountable.

Singapore is committed to upholding the Convention and will participate actively in the discussions on the way forward for the OPCW, including at the Fourth Review Conference and the regular session of the Conference of the States Parties.



Please consider this statement as an official statement of this special session of the Conference of the States Parties.

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