



OPCW

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CHILE

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR MARÍA TERESA INFANTE
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CHILE TO THE OPCW
AT THE FINAL PLENARY SESSION OF THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION
OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION**

Mr Chairperson,

At the close of this Fourth Review Conference, we express our appreciation for your work and the work carried out by Ambassadors I Gusti Agung Wesaka Puja of Indonesia and Marcin Czepelak of Poland, who had important tasks at various levels of preparing and overseeing our discussions. This Conference has produced exhaustive and serious work, seeking to reflect through agreed terms that all of us support and in which we all believe. The principles and legal standards that connect us, stemming from the Chemical Weapons Convention (“the Convention”), are more relevant than ever.

In the five years since 2013, we have borne witness to allegations and successes, while developing a sustainable process for the destruction of stockpiles and facilities, among other tasks relating to the implementation of the Convention. All of this has tested the capacities of the Organisation and its Technical Secretariat (“the Secretariat”), which have proven to be fully capable and, with our clear recognition, have demonstrated leadership in the international disarmament system.

We thus regret that the report by the Chairperson of this Fourth Review Conference will not be able to reflect these tremendous achievements, and that it was not possible to overcome disagreements and alternative approaches to the functions of the Organisation and its legal regime.

We will not read this report, the presentation of which we welcome, as a revision of what we have agreed upon and that to which we have committed ourselves under the Convention and the decisions adopted by the relevant bodies. We recognise at this time the efforts that have been made and we regret that at the close of these meetings, we will not see the consensus that we hoped for. A consensus requires sacrifice and the ability to address real problems. We have made efforts to address the use of chemical weapons by any type of actor—both State and non-State actors—under any circumstance, and we regret that it was not possible to have that reflected in the final document.



We do wish to underscore that the Chairperson's report specifies the important agreements that convey a common vision, which include matters relevant to the Organisation's capabilities: development and cooperation, governance, and assistance and protection. We are willing and able to work on these matters and we are committed to doing so. Nevertheless, we are also aware that the Secretariat has undertaken important tasks over the course of this year and we have taken on the responsibility for moving these forward.

We thank you, Mr Chairperson, for your work and we reiterate our recognition of the Director-General and the Secretariat for their dedication and commitment at this time. We will continue to work together on the challenges that stand before us.

Thank you.

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