



ROMANIA

STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR BRÂNDUȘA PREDESCU PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ROMANIA TO THE OPCW AT THE NINETY-FIRST SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Mr Chairperson,
Mr Director-General,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that, on behalf of the Romanian Delegation, I congratulate H.E. Ambassador Andrea Perugini from Italy on his election as the Chairperson of the Executive Council (“the Council”) and assure him of the full cooperation and support of my team, including in the context of my capacity as Vice-Chairperson of the Council. I would also like to extend my gratitude to H.E. Ambassador Jana Reinišová from the Czech Republic for her remarkable work at the forefront of the Council, wishing all the best of success in her future endeavours.

Romania aligns itself with the statement delivered by Ambassador Päivi Kaukoranta on behalf of the European Union. At the same time, I would like to address the Council in my national capacity.

As a dynamic advocate of the multilateralism, Romania has always had a responsible, constructive, and supportive approach with respect to promoting the best ways for achieving a full and effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (“the Convention”). My country strongly urges all State Parties to actively uphold the Convention and support the OPCW. Also, we firmly support the activity of the OPCW Director-General and the Technical Secretariat (“the Secretariat”) in their complex undertakings meant to advance the purposes of the Convention. We have total confidence in their professionalism, expertise, and impartiality. At the same time, we firmly oppose any attempt to undermine the credibility and integrity of the OPCW, which threatens to weaken the foundations of the chemical disarmament system.

The re-emerging use of chemical weapons in the recent years demonstrates that the fight against this kind of weapons is not close to an end. Against this background, we believe that accountability represents a crucial issue for the Organisation. That is why Romania has been a supporter of the Conference of the States Parties Decision in June 2018 and continues to back its thorough enforcement.



Romania welcomes the OPCW Secretariat non-paper on the workforce management. It provides concrete proposals aimed at enhancing the Secretariat capacity to respond to the diverse tasks that we, the State Parties, have entrusted the Organisation with. These tasks have been set both through the Convention, as well as decisions taken by the relevant OPCW organs in full compliance with the Convention. It is thus our duty to open-mindedly and constructively consider these proposals and provide the Organisation with new adequate means to perform its evolving mission.

We have noticed and welcomed the overall positive atmosphere generated initially by the different working documents put forward by the Non-Aligned Movement and China and by the Secretariat, respectively. We hope that the upcoming debates will create consensus around concrete topics of common interest for the future of the OPCW. In this regard, we want to assure the two Co-facilitators, Ambassadors Puja of Indonesia and Vásquez Gómez of El Salvador, of our constructive support.

I would like to request that this statement be circulated as an official document of the Ninety-First Session of the Council and posted on the OPCW external server and public website.

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