



**Statement by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia  
at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Executive Council of the OPCW  
9 October 2019**

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

Allow me to welcome you back, Mr. Chair. It has truly been a busy time for you and this Council. Nevertheless, we believe that your able stewardship will deliver a successful outcome. I would also like to thank the Director-General, Ambassador Fernando Arias for his report and commend him and his team for their commitment and continuous efforts.

My delegation 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.

***Mr. Chairperson,***

Indonesia reaffirms the great importance of the universality of the Convention and commits resolutely for its full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation. My Delegation will continue to support efforts and programs in the implementation of the Convention, including for strengthening the implementation of Article XI on Economic and Technological Activities.

States Parties and the OPCW should enhance their collective efforts to strengthen cooperation, especially in capacity building activities in the area of chemical safety and security. Strengthening international cooperation and assistance as well as peaceful uses of chemistry, are among the foremost elements of the Convention and essential features for attaining non-proliferation and the building of confidence among States Parties.

In this regard, I would like to commend the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW for their cooperation and assistance in the two capacity-building related activities that will be held in Indonesia, namely the Table Top Exercise on Chemical Emergency Response (TTX 2019) Asia Region, 29 October – 1 November 2019 and the Workshop on the Chemical Supply Chain Safety and Security Management for the Member States of the OPCW in the Southeast Asia on 19-21 November 2019. We strongly believe that these activities will be of tremendous benefit for the States-Parties involved.

***Mr. Chairperson,***

Furthermore, an ongoing initiative that would promote international cooperation and assistance, as well as enhancing national capacity and knowledge of States Parties in the area of research, training and technological development is in need of our support, i.e. the Centre for Chemistry and Technology or the ChemTech Center. Indonesia and Canada, as coordinators of the Friends of the OPCW Laboratory Group, will continue to work with the

Group of Friends of the Laboratory and other state parties to ensure that the new Centre for Chemistry and Technology benefits all State Parties and strengthen the efforts toward capacity building. My delegation reiterates the call for all State Parties to support and contribute to the establishment of the ChemTech Center.

On that matter, allow me to use this opportunity to convey my utmost appreciation to Ambassador Sabine Nolke of Canada, who has tirelessly promoted the importance of the ChemTech Center to all States Parties of the OPCW. I wish her success in her future endeavors and look forward to continuing the cooperation with her successor.

**Mr. Chairperson,**

My delegation condemns, on strongest possible terms, the use of chemical weapons, or the use of toxic chemicals as weapons, by anyone, anywhere, under any circumstances, and for whatever reasons. It is reprehensible and a completely grave violation of the Convention and all norms of international law. The OPCW and this Council have the sacred responsibility to address this issue and ensure to eliminate and prevent the use and proliferation of chemical weapons in the future. Indonesia wishes to reiterate its firm commitment on the achievement of complete disarmament, including the prohibition and elimination of all chemical weapons in line with the Convention. Indonesia, therefore, urges all possessor States to take extra steps to expedite their destruction processes.

In this regard, I would like to extend my utmost appreciation to Japan and China for their excellent co-hosting of the visit to the Abandoned Chemical Weapons (ACWs) Destruction Facility in Haerbaling, China, 2-7 September 2019. This showed their and also a towering example of cooperation between state parties to free the world from chemical weapons.

**Mr. Chairperson,**

My delegation understands that these have been challenging times for the OPCW, as the gap within the OPCW continues to grow and the unity and consensus processes, that once was the highlight of our Organization, has been in constant challenges. Indonesia is a staunch supporter to the consensus-based processes of this Organisation.

My delegation believes that all States Parties should have a common desire and understanding to fully comply with the Convention and achieve a world free of chemical weapons. Indonesia also strongly believes that any divergence of views or interpretation among States Parties should continue to be discussed intensively through dialogue in a constructive manner in order to unite views and cast away any doubts for any misinterpretations.

**Mr. Chairperson,**

My delegation welcomes OPCW's intention, through its Advisory Board on Education and Outreach (ABEO), to look into the relevance of the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030. These two important goals must not be viewed as mutually exclusive, in fact Indonesia believe that both will complement each other.

My delegation also applauds the Director General, as one of the Global Gender Champions on the achievement of gender parity in the Organization's top structure, bringing the representation of female from 10% to 50%. Moreover, we encourage the OPCW to continue its efforts in promoting gender parity at the professional/technical level and also encourages that the application of equitable geographical representation could be achieved as well.

Indonesia conveys its great appreciation to the co-facilitators and the Technical Secretariat on its deliberations on the 2020 OPCW Program and Budget. We also welcome the intention of the OPCW to transform its annual program and budgeting measure into a biennial one. We hope that through this mechanism, more programs, particularly those aimed to promote the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention and capacity building program for the developing countries can be more prioritized. While appreciating the move, we also highlight the need to ensure greater transparency and accountability of the organization for this new budgeting mechanism.

**Mr. Chairperson,**

I would like to convey my utmost appreciation for the trust by all state parties entrusted upon me and my good friend Ambassador Agustín Vásquez Gómez of El Salvador to co-facilitate discussions among States Parties on the NAM & China Proposal for the Establishment of an Open-Ended Working Group as well as the Technical Secretariat's Non-Paper on Ensuring Diverse and Qualified Workforce. I would like to also thank states parties for their support on the deliberation of the Chair's Proposal on the "Revitalizing the Facilitation Framework, Enhancing Coordination and Addressing Issues on Which Progress is Sought by States Parties in a Non-discriminatory and Effective Manner". Your supports mean a lot for our work here in OPCW, to ensure that all states parties can put forward topics and have them deliberated in a non-discriminatory manner. I hope that we can arrive at the final destination without losing our enthusiasm to talk and listen.

In closing, 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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