



**Statement by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia
at the 24th Conference of States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention
(CSP-24)**

25-29 November 2019

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

Let me take this opportunity to join other delegations in congratulating Ambassador Krassimir Kostov of Bulgaria as the Chairperson of the CSP-24. You have my delegation's full support.

I would also like to thank the Director-General, Ambassador Fernando Arias for his report and commend him and the Technical Secretariat for their steadfast commitment and continuous efforts. Allow me also to convey my utmost appreciation to my good friend, Ambassador Yun Young Lee of South Korea, who have led us tirelessly as Chair of CSP-23. As Ambassador Lee will complete his tenure in The Hague and return to South Korea shortly, I would like to extend my appreciation and wish him success in his future endeavor.

My delegation associates itself with the statement delivered by H.E. Mr. Jafar Huseynzada of Azerbaijan on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China. Let me also seize this opportunity to extend our warm felicitations to Azerbaijan in assuming NAM and China chairmanship for 2019-2022 and also to Ambassador Haifa Aissami Madah of Venezuela for her robust stewardship of NAM and China during her tenure as the Chair.

Mr. Chairperson,

My Delegation will continue to support efforts and programs in the implementation of the Convention, including agreed measures in 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 connection, I would like to reiterate Indonesia's commitment and sharing its homegrown experiences, through facilitating industrial attachment of the Associate Program 2019 with the participation of two prominent Indonesian companies and

hosting two capacity-building related activities, 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 also commend the Technical Secretariat (TS) of the OPCW for their cooperation and assistance in these activities. Indonesia stands ready to continue working with the TS and other States Parties to enhance regional capacities in the implementation of the full and effective of the CWC.

Mr. Chairperson,

Allow me to use this opportunity to update the CSP on the recent status of national implementation measures by the Government of Indonesia in implementing the CWC. The Government of Indonesia has issued decrees on Presidential level and Ministers level to strengthen our legal capacity in implementing the CWC. Those rules and regulations are as follows:

- Presidential Instruction number 4/2019 on Capacity Building in Preventing, Detecting, and Responding to Outbreak of Disease, Global Pandemic, and CBRN Emergency; and
- Minister for Industry Affairs' decree number 19/2019 on prevention and handling of chemical emergency in chemical industries.
- Minister for Trade Affairs' decree number 18/2019 on testing methods, registration procedure, control, termination of trade activities, and withdrawal of goods related to the safety, security, health, and environment.
- Minister for Trade Affairs' decree number 47/2019 on procurement, distribution, and control of hazardous materials.

We envision that these newly-introduced rules and regulations will strengthen Indonesia's capability in implementing the CWC.

Mr. Chairperson,

My delegation would like to reiterate its condemnations, 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.

In this regard, the Indonesian delegate welcome the proposal for the technical changes to the Annex to the CWC and the intention to adopt both of them through consensus with a single bang of the gavel. I believe that this is an important step to strengthen the CWC and in turn to make the world a safer place from the scourge of the chemical weapons.

We also welcome the progress made by China and Japan on their efforts to destroy the Abandoned Chemical Weapons (ACWs) as well as the progress made by United States on the destruction of their chemical weapons stockpile. Indonesia stresses the need for the said countries to strictly comply with their obligation as well as double their efforts in expediting the process of total destruction of the ACWs and the chemical weapon stockpiles before the deadlines.

Mr. Chairperson,

On the Investigation and Identification Team (IIT) issue, my delegation reiterates the importance of the professional experts based on equitable geographical and gender representation in the IIT to carry out its tasks credibly. We reject any attempts to politicize the operational of the team which may increase the disunity and undermine the reputation of the OPCW.

Mr. Chairperson,

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. 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,

We underline the role of the OPCW in supporting the States Parties of the CWC in facilitating the rights of state parties to participate, individually or collectively, to the fullest possible extent activities for the purposes not prohibited under the Convention, including exchange of chemical technologies, expertise, scientific, and technological information, that is aimed at fostering economic development.

We also stress the importance of continuing the promotion of the peaceful uses of chemistry and its benefits for economic and development as well as the improvement of chemical verification capacities of state parties, through sponsorship program in chemical research and laboratory development, capacity building and specialized training in chemical safety, security and forensics.

Therefore, in this regard, we request the OPCW to increase its engagement with the chemical industries to promote global chemical trade and to strengthen the mechanism for consultation and cooperation in closing down technological gaps among States Parties. Such urgent needs are even more crucial with the growing global industries and the increase risk of the misuse of chemical materials by the non-state actors. The said international cooperation could also improve the availability of suitable pool of talents from developing countries and in turn increase the geographical representation of the.

Mr. Chairperson,

We commend the OPCW for its continued 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. On that note, we would also like to emphasize the need to continue to increase the capacity of women in chemistry. In this regard, Indonesia is willing to facilitate the 5th edition of the Symposium on Women in Chemistry in 2020.

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 the discussion on 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".

Mr. Chairperson,

On 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.

Finally, I request that this statement be circulated and be issued as an official document of this Conference and to be published on the OPCW website.

Thank You.

---ooo0000ooo---