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**MEXICO**

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR JOSÉ ANTONIO ZABALGOITIA TREJO  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MEXICO TO THE OPCW AT THE NINETY-  
SECOND SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairperson, distinguished representatives, delegates

The delegation of Mexico recognises the leadership of the Chairperson of the Executive Council, Ambassador Andrea Perugini, and is confident that the work of this Council will conclude with the adoption of a final report.

My government expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for the report on the activities carried out, as well as the reports presented by the Vice-Chairpersons of the Executive Council. In this regard, Mexico reiterates its confidence in the staff of the Technical Secretariat—including its inspectors—who perform their work with a high degree of responsibility and commitment, in accordance with the objectives and purpose of the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”).

The Government of Mexico encourages the complete implementation of the Convention, so as to avoid any use or intention to use chemical weapons or toxic chemicals as weapons, given that these types of acts are cruel, deplorable, and unjustifiable in any circumstance.

Mexico invites the remaining States not Party to the Convention to adhere to this important international instrument, without any reservations, in order to achieve its universality.

Concerning the chemical weapons elimination programme, my country welcomes the modifications submitted by the delegation of the United States of America to the agreed detailed plan for the verification of the destruction of chemical weapons and facility agreement regarding on-site inspections for the consideration of this Council. Mexico is certain that the authorities will continue to strive for the complete elimination of their chemical arsenals as soon as possible, in full compliance with the international verification regime established by the Convention.

In this regard, my Government welcomes the level of cooperation between China and Japan, who are continuously advancing in the destruction of the abandoned chemical weapons in Chinese territory, as was observed during the recent visit made by several members of the Council to the facilities in Hearbalang.

Additionally, the Government of Mexico expresses its appreciation to the Director-General for his monthly reports on the Syrian chemical weapons elimination programme. While we



acknowledge the progress made by the Syrian Arab Republic on the activities related to the destruction of its chemical weapons and production facilities, we reiterate the call upon its authorities to continue the “Structured Dialogue” and give continuity to the commitments and obligations that emanate from the provisions of the Convention.

Mexico will remain attentive to the responses that Syria provides on the outstanding issues of its initial declaration and which are required by the Declaration Assessment Team.

The delegation of Mexico acknowledges that the progress report on the implementation of Decision C-SS-4/DEC.3, presented by the Director-General, addresses the threat of chemical weapons in a responsible manner and in accordance with the mandate it has been granted.

My delegation fully supports the invitation extended by the Coordinator of the Investigation and Identification Team (IIT) to the States Parties and other local, regional, and international actors to provide all relevant information available to them, in order to get solid and objective evidences, which allow us to know the origin of the chemical weapons used in several incidents in the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Mexico is confident in the professionalism of the work of the IIT, whose report will be based on technical-scientific and methodological reasoning.

Given the threat of terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of financing, my country considers that the activities carried out by the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach in the field of chemical disarmament are essential to eradicate the use of chemical weapons and encourage the peaceful uses of chemistry.

In light of the above, Mexico promotes the advancement of the peaceful uses of chemistry, which should serve as a platform for technical-scientific and economic development of the States Parties to the Convention. International cooperation is the best instrument to achieve this goal.

Therefore, Mexico commends the modernisation of the laboratory of the OPCW, which will become the Centre for Chemistry and Technology (ChemTech Centre), with the purpose of strengthening the capabilities of the Organisation and the States Parties.

Mr Chairperson, as a sign of the strong commitment of my country and its authorities to the work of verification and the obligations arising from the Convention, I am pleased to inform this Council that two officials of the National Authority of Mexico are currently participating in the testing of the Assistance and Protection Data Bank. Furthermore, in coordination with the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW, the Assistance and Protection Training Course for Latin America, will be held in Mexico City, from 11 to 15 November.

Thank you very much.

I will appreciate this statement to be considered a public and official document of this meeting.