

**ArgIQ – Information Quality in Argentina
Statement by Maria Jose Espona**

**25th Session of the Conference of the States Parties
Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
The Hague, The Netherlands**

Mister Chairman, Director-General, Distinguished Delegates, CWC Coalition Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Since COVID-19 arrived in our lives, we have been challenged in different ways. I hope all those who listen to this message, as well as their dear ones, are healthy as well during this pandemic.

ArgIQ is a non-profit organization with the objective of spreading, through academic activities, the Information Quality methodology to Argentina and other Spanish-speaking countries.

The Information Quality methodology provides us with new tools for managing information, creating a new concept that goes from data collection to its transformation into information, intelligence and knowledge.

During this challenging year, instead of what we had planned to do, we did some conference calls about CBRN non-proliferation at different institutions in order to raise awareness about the importance of the problem in the current times.

Because of the success of one of them at the Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina, Paraná (Entre Rios Province) headquarters, we started to develop a Research Center on Nonproliferation at that place. We are proud of this endeavour because it not only helps to create a multidisciplinary group of students and professors working on this complex topic but it decentralizes the discussion from Buenos Aires.

We planned to update and finally publish our research on chemical terrorism, but because of the pandemic, the focus of our researchers moved to the biological field; we expect to go back to normality soon. On chemical terrorism we first will analyze the phenomena, trying to understand it and its components; we then will come out with a definition of what chemical terrorism means, after analyzing all the relevant definitions; and finally, we plan to come out with some hypothesis about the future and test them with the available information. We will use several methodological tools, which working together allow us to perform research with less impact of our cognitive bias, among other potential distortions that could occur during the research.

We are looking forward to be back to The Hague, and participating in the CWC Coalition Open Forum where we have the opportunity to exchange views with other representatives of the global NGO community. This year, with our virtual meeting, we experience a different CSP, but were able to follow up the implementation of the Convention as every year.

Thank you for allowing us to be part of this and to present our work, however briefly, to you.

Thank you for your attention, and I request that this statement be made part of the final CSP record.