

**Statement of Ms. Anna Paternnosto  
The CBRNe Society**

**25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the States Parties  
The Hague, The Netherlands**

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

I am honored to speak on behalf of the CBRNe Society, a foundation based in The Netherlands. We would like to congratulate the OPCW and the CWC States Parties who deserve credit for their steady and ongoing progress in safely eliminating declared chemical weapons stockpiles.

The CBRNe Society is a relatively young, self-funded NGO established in 2017. We believe that creating platforms within the CBRNe community is important. In our view, moving forward is only possible through cooperation. Our mission is to serve as the nucleus of the global CBRN community by developing and sharing knowledge, promoting innovation, and building bridges between relevant governmental, military, industrial, and scientific stakeholders. Through the Society, these stakeholders are given the opportunity to share knowledge, expertise, and form partnerships to strengthen resilience against CBRNe threats during our NCT Conferences, Trainings and Exhibitions.

We believe in universality of the CWC, and hope the OPCW can achieve its aim to ban all chemical weapons from this world. However, caution is a merit and we should stay alert and prepared for the intended and unintended use of chemical weapons. This is why it is important to keep sharing knowledge, expand our networks of professionals and experts, and keep building bridges between the different communities of CBRNe stakeholders. We invite the OPCW and the CWC State Parties to join our NCT Conferences, Trainings, and Exhibitions to continue our mission to make this world a safer and more secure place.

Thank you for your kind attention, and I request this statement be included in the final published Conference proceedings.