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Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
The Hague, The Netherlands

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

I am pleased to be able to speak on behalf of Pakistan House again this year. Let me first thank
you for this opportunity. The post COVID-19 has changed the way most of us are
communicating at international forums. Despite pandemic and worsening situation, I must
appreciate OPCW and Dr. Paul Walker’s efforts to ensure civil societies’ participation at this
august forum.

Mister Chairman, while the world is busy in grappling with the socioeconomic implications of
COVID-19, the risk remains that terrorists might use chemical weapons related material to
jeopardize the existing framework of security cooperation. Due to lack of a defined doctrine of
“strategic protection” of ordinary citizens, the threats of chemical related attacks have
increased.

Mister Chairman, one of the practical ideas to mitigate this risk is to establish mandatory
educational outreach program for member states which should include teaching/training in
responsible Chemistry. Although the creation of state of the art training facilities (e.g. labs) in
major regions of the world by OPCW has significantly enhanced the technical capacity of
member states, a genuine partnership between state parties, civil society, and chemical industry
is the need of the hour.

Mister Chairman, Let me take this opportunity and reaffirm that the platform of Pakistan House
is available to further the noble cause of OPCW and CWC Coalition and we look forward to
participate in the on-going research projects especially in projects concerning awareness about
the role of responsible Chemistry in countering proliferation of chemical weapons related
material.

Mister Chairman,

Let me conclude: It is my hope that the cooperation between OPCW and the CWC Coalition
will not only help the capacity building but will also contribute to strategic protection of
ordinary citizens.

Thank you for your kind attention, and I wish for this statement to be made part of the final
CSP record and posted on the external server and website.