

**Statement by H.E. Mrs. Eksiri Pintaruchai
Ambassador and Representative of Thailand to the OPCW
at the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Conference of the States
Parties**

Mr. Chairperson,
Mr. Director-General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

1. On behalf of the Thai delegation, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your election as Chairperson of the Conference. Despite the challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, I am certain that your able leadership and guidance will bring the Conference to success.

2. I also would like to take this opportunity to convey my appreciation to H.E. Mr. Agustin Vasquez Gomez of El Salvador for his dedication in the capacity of Chairperson of the Executive Council as well as H.E. Director-General Fernando Arias and the Technical Secretariat for their hard work and contributions in supporting the implementation of the Convention. We stand ready to interact and cooperate with the Technical Secretariat to facilitate the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

3. Thailand aligns itself with the statement delivered by H.E. Mr. Jafar Huseynzada of Azerbaijan on behalf of the States Parties that are Members of the Non-Aligned Movement and China and would like to add the following remarks in its national capacity.

Mr. Chairperson,

4. The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) has been contributing significantly to global efforts in preventing the use and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Thailand welcomes the progress of destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles as well as production facilities. Our work under the framework of the CWC clearly contributes to the promotion of peace and security. Thailand therefore attached the importance to the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of the CWC.

5. On our part, Thailand remains committed to the obligation under the CWC in all of its provisions. The use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere, and under any circumstances is not acceptable and the perpetrators should be held accountable.

6. Thailand therefore regrets that there are increasing reports on the use of chemical weapons. We take note of the OPCW report on the investigation of the case of Mr. Alexei Navalny. It is our shared responsibility, as States Parties to the Convention, to enhance the efforts to eliminate the use of chemical weapons and to ensure full and effective implementation. Thailand supports and encourages the constructive cooperation and dialogues among States Parties under the Convention's framework.

Mr. Chairperson,

7. In order for the OPCW to be able to effectively address and respond to persisting threat and emerging challenges posed by chemical weapons, it is important for the OPCW to have well-equipped facilities that can effectively respond to these new challenges and develop the technical skills required in chemical industry management. Therefore, Thailand contributed a total amount of 450,000 THB to the Secretariat for its implementation of the OPCW Centre for Chemistry and Technology project.

We are confident that the project will play an important role in strengthening institutional and personnel capacity to cope with challenges from new form of chemicals and technologies.

8. Thailand believes that in order to achieve effective chemical safety and security, continuous exchange of knowledge and best practices between domestic stakeholders and international community is essential. Cooperation among State Parties and stakeholders is also vital to prevent misuse of science and technology as well as dual-use goods. The OPCW plays an essential role in strengthening the capacity of States Parties in order to prepare and respond to any chemical related challenges. Thailand supports information-sharing sessions or regional workshops to serve as important platforms to enhance our capabilities and prepare against the use of chemical weapons and promote effective implementation of the Convention.

9. The CWC has come a long way, contributing substantively to our global security architecture for the past twenty years. The total elimination of chemical weapons is a goal within reach, but beyond that, is the goal of sustainable peace and security. Thailand looks forward to working with the OPCW and all stakeholders to meet the Convention's obligations and together realizing our desired goal.

Thank you

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