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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR DR HISSA ABDULLA ALOTAIBA
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES TO THE
OPCW AT THE NINETY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

I would like to welcome the Ambassador of El Salvador, His Excellency Mr Agustín Vásquez Gómez, and express our confidence in his leadership of the current session. I wish also to thank the Director-General, His Excellency Mr Fernando Arias, and the Vice-Chairpersons of the Executive Council for their remarkable work and reports.

The State of the United Arab Emirates expresses its appreciation of the efforts of the Executive Council Bureau and the OPCW Technical Secretariat staff to prepare for this session despite the outbreak of the epidemic and the ongoing extraordinary circumstances. We wish this and all upcoming sessions a successful conclusion.

The State of the United Arab Emirates expresses its commitment to cooperate with the Organisation and the States Parties, through its membership in the Executive Council, in order to achieve the objectives of the Organisation and ensure the effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

The State of the United Arab Emirates affirms that the use of chemical weapons and toxic chemicals as weapons anywhere, by anyone, and under any circumstances is reprehensible and completely contrary to the provisions of the Convention, legal norms, and standards of international law.

The State of the United Arab Emirates calls for addressing the issue of use of central nervous system-acting chemicals for law enforcement purposes, through discussions and in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

The State of the United Arab Emirates has reviewed the Director-General's reports on the progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme, and we look forward to further cooperation between the OPCW and the Syrian Arab Republic on all issues.

The State of the United Arab Emirates affirms the need to strengthen the capabilities of the Technical Secretariat to respond to requests for assistance under Article X of the Convention, and support capacity-building programmes for States Parties.



The State of the United Arab Emirates attaches great importance to the full, effective implementation of Article XI and stresses the need to strengthen cooperation in economic and technological development among States Parties.

The State of the United Arab Emirates affirms that the universality of the Convention is critical to achieving the objectives of the Convention. We call upon the remaining States not Party to the Convention to consider acceding to the Convention at the earliest.

The State of the United Arab Emirates reiterates its commitment to the OPCW as well as to the fulfilment of its obligations under the Convention in the interest of international peace and security.

In conclusion, I request that this statement be circulated as an official document of this session and posted on the external server and the public website of the OPCW.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.

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