ROMANIA

STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR LUCIAN FĂTU,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ROMANIA TO THE OPCW,
AT THE NINETY-EIGHT SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Mr. Chairperson, Mr. Director-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Romania fully supports the statement of the European Union. It is a statement that covers the main concerns of States Parties that are EU members.

However, in these complicated times even more support is needed. For this reason, I would like to add a few remarks in our national capacity.

Romania recognizes and supports the important role of the OPCW in the multilateral architecture that underpins the rule of law and advances towards the rule-based order. For this reason, we can only thank the Technical Secretariat, the Director-General and all those who contributed to the continuation of the OPCW’s work, under exceptional circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This session of the Executive Council will definitely contribute to strengthen multilateralism and the rules based international order. Every step taken is important. At the end of all discussions, consultations, declarations and decisions only one fundamental element remains: a world free of chemical weapons. This depends on how we are working together to achieve this goal and prevent the re-emergence of chemical weapons.

Romania is convinced that all States Parties must act to protect the integrity of the Convention, a key instrument of the international non-proliferation and disarmament regime, and to uphold the global chemical weapons non-use norm. Romania acts in this spirit.

For this very reason, Romania voted in favour of the CSP25 decision to suspend the voting rights and privileges of the Syrian Arab Republic. Romania is among the States Parties requesting the Syrian Arab Republic to cooperate with the OPCW. We urge Syrian Arab Republic to provide the relevant information to the Technical Secretariat in order to resolve the pending issues.

This belief was also the basis of Romania’s actions regarding the assassination attempt on the Russian opposition politician Mr. Alexei Navalny. Romania reiterates its strong concerns that the Russian Federation has not reacted to international calls to investigate thoroughly and in full transparency the assassination attempt on Mr. Alexei Navalny.

Romania considers very important that all States Parties shall pay their contributions on time so the OPCW could function effectively.

In the same vein, Romania welcomes and co-sponsors Germany’s initiative on Executive Council business continuity.

Romania supports the re-appointment of Ambassador Arias for a second term in office. We are convinced that Ambassador Arias will continue to act in the same firm way and H.E. will also continue the projects that have already been started. One of these projects is ChemTech, whose implementation Romania fully supports, including financially, in order to establish the “ChemTechCentre”.

I would kindly ask you to consider this statement as an official document and post it on the OPCW Catalyst and public website.

Thank you.