



ALGERIA

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF AFRICAN
STATES PARTIES TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
DELIVERED BY H.E. AMBASSADOR LOUNÈS MAGRAMANE
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA TO THE OPCW
AT THE NINETY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
ON AGENDA ITEM 17 ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

Mr Chairperson,

I have the pleasure to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of African States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (“the Convention”).

At the outset, the African Group would like to emphasise on the fact that the appointment of the Director-General of the OPCW as one of the important issues for the Organisation and its action should be a matter of consensus. It needs to be treated through consultation with all delegations.

The African Group welcomes, in this regard, the process of consultation initiated by the Executive Council’s Chairperson with the States Parties on the re-appointment of the Director-General, H.E. Mr Fernando Arias for a second term. Being part of these consultations, the Group shares the general feeling in favour of consensus that we have always tried to reach in our Organisation on all key matters.

Having no objection, the Group stands ready to contribute actively in all efforts towards the adoption by the Ninety-Eighth Session of the Executive Council of a consensual decision of recommendation to the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Conference of the States Parties to appoint the Director-General of the Organisation.

Finally, the Group adds its voice of support to Director-General Fernando Arias, for the renewal of his mandate for another four-year term and calls on him to continue to deploy efforts towards the achievement of the Convention’s objectives and the promotion of the spirit of unity and cohesion within the Organisation and its members.

The African Group would like to request that this statement be published as an official document of this session.

Thank you for your kind attention.

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