



**OPCW**

**Conference of the States Parties**

Twenty-Fifth Session  
20 – 22 April 2021 (Part II)

C-25/NAT.106  
21 April 2021  
ENGLISH only

**STATE OF PALESTINE**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE STATE OF PALESTINE  
TO THE OPCW AT THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF  
THE STATES PARTIES  
EXPLANATION OF VOTE ON THE DRAFT DECISION  
“ADDRESSING THE POSSESSION AND USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS BY  
THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC”**

Mr Chairperson,

The State of Palestine has always been guided by its principled commitment to the OPCW's mission of implementing the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention (“the Convention”), to achieve our objective of peace in a world free of chemical weapons and the threat of their use, and in which chemistry is used for progress and prosperity.

The State of Palestine voted against the resolution because we believe that the OPCW is in its essence a technical organisation.

It is for this reason that the State of Palestine has consistently rejected any and all attempts of polarisation and politicisation of the OPCW and will continue to do so.

As States Parties to the Convention, it is our duty and responsibility to uphold, preserve, and refrain from deviating from the mandate of the Organisation.

According to OPCW's mission, two fundamental principles underline the OPCW's approach. The first is the centrality of the Convention's multilateral character. The second is the equal application of the provisions of the Convention to all States Parties.

The State of Palestine is against the establishment of any mechanisms outside of what is stipulated in the provisions of the Convention.

I kindly request that this statement be circulated as an official document and posted on the public and external website of the OPCW.

Thank you.

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