



OPCW

Conference of the States Parties

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

C-25/NAT.113
21 April 2021
ENGLISH only

INDIA

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA 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,

As a founding member of the Chemical Weapons Convention, India attaches the highest importance to the full and effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (“the Convention”). India has been firmly opposed to any use of chemical weapons anywhere, at any time, by anybody, under any circumstances. Any use of chemical weapons would be reprehensible, in complete disregard of humanity, and in violation of the Convention.

India has consistently maintained that investigation into any use of chemical weapons should be impartial and objective, following scrupulously the provisions and procedures embedded in the Convention, and in conformity with the delicate balance of power and responsibility enshrined in it.

India supports the resolution of the issues through consultation, dialogue and cooperation.

In view of the foregoing, India has decided to abstain on the vote on the draft decision.

Let me reiterate that India remains committed to working together with States Parties to strengthen the Convention and in ensuring its effective implementation.

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

Thank you.

--- 0 ---

