

OPCW

Twenty-Fifth Session 20 – 22 April 2021 (Part II) C-25/NAT.123 20 April 2021 ENGLISH only

## **ESTONIA**

## STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA TO THE OPCW AT THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES UNDER AGENDA ITEM 9(D)

Mr Chairperson,

The Republic of Estonia would like to take the floor to join the European Union and many other countries who expressed their views earlier.

Estonia strongly condemns the use of chemical weapons by the Syrian Arab Air Force, as concluded by the two Investigation and Identification Team (IIT) reports submitted to the Executive Council and to the Secretary General of the United Nations. The Executive Council decision of 9 July 2020 set clear and verifiable parameters for actions that the Syrian Arab Republic needs to take in order to return to full compliance with the Chemical Weapons Convention ("the Convention"). However, to date no progress has been made.

The complete lack of cooperation with the OPCW must have consequences. It is simply crucial for the credibility of a key instrument of the global non-proliferation and disarmament architecture, the Convention. We therefore urge the States Parties to support the adoption of the draft decision.

We kindly request this statement is issued as an official document of the Twenty-Fifth Session of the Conference of the States Parties and posted on the OPCW External Server and public website.

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