



OPCW

Executive Council

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ENGLISH and FRENCH only

FRANCE

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC TO THE
OPCW AT THE NINETY-NINTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
UNDER AGENDA ITEM 10**

Madam Chairperson,

The threat of the use of chemical weapons by non-State actors is a cause for concern for many delegations, including our own.

The OPCW's contribution in this field is critical, and France stands ready to support the Technical Secretariat in this regard. In 2021 we made a voluntary contribution of EUR 230,000 for international cooperation projects, within the framework of the OPCW Programme to Strengthen Cooperation with Africa. The two projects, under Articles VII and X of the Convention, are aimed at increasing the capacities of States Parties to address the threats emanating from non-State actors.

These contributions are consistent with our long-standing commitments to African countries to improve international security and combat terrorism.

We believe that the OPCW is the appropriate forum to deal with the issue of chemical terrorism. We are convinced that more can be done in this area at the OPCW, including within the framework of the Fifth Review Conference and the preparatory process for it.

We are ready to work on this issue in a committed and constructive manner with all interested delegations.

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