<u>Statement by H.E. Şaban Dişli, Permanent Representative of Türkiye</u> <u>under Agenda Item 8 Countering chemical terrorism</u>

Mr Chairperson,

Countering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations has been a priority for Türkiye. International cooperation is a must to overcome this global challenge. Likewise, chemical terrorism is a serious threat that we must eliminate.

The most effective way to fight against such terrorist threats is the full and effective implementation of the Convention. OPCW has a key role through its capacity-building activities, enhancing national implementation of States Parties.

The Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism gives the OPCW an important opportunity to discuss the Chemical Weapons Convention's response to the global threat of terrorism.

In this context, I thank the Working Group's Chairperson, Ambassador Madonsela of South Africa for his efforts.

Mr Chairperson,

I categorically reject the fabricated allegations by the Syrian representative. This is yet another attempt by Syria to divert attention from its well-documented violations of the Convention.