



**Statement by
H.E. Mr. Mayerfas
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia
to the OPCW
At the 27th Conference of States Parties
The Hague, November 2022**

Mr. Chairperson,

At the outset, allow me to join other delegations in extending our sincere felicitations to H.E. Mr. Vusimuzi Madonsela of South Africa as the newly elected Chairperson of this year's Conference of States Parties. We are confident that your able stewardship will contribute greatly to the success of our deliberations. As in previous conferences, please be assured of my delegation's full support and cooperation as we look forward to a favourable and productive session.

We also would like to pay our tribute to your predecessor, the Chairperson of the 26th Conference, Ambassador Bard Ivar Svendsen of Norway and applaud him for his exceptional work and successful steering of the last conference.

I would like to thank the Director General, H.E. Fernando Arias, for his statement and commend him and his team for the commitment and efforts they have made in the implementation of the Convention.

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by H.E. Mr. Fikrat Akhundov of Azerbaijan on behalf of the NAM States Parties to the Convention and China.

The Indonesian delegation warmly notes the undertakings made to this Convention in fostering peace and security. A world free of chemical weapons is our shared objective and the Convention has reached a near universality. This is reflected in the wide and strong support for its objectives in the prohibition of chemical weapons and its initiatives in strengthening international cooperation among its member states to promote peaceful uses of chemistry. It is indeed our sincere hope that a goal of true universalization of CWC can be realized in the near future.

Besides the universal adherence to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and more effective multilateral cooperation, improving national implementation of the CWC is also an important element needed for meeting current challenges posed by chemical weapons, including the specter of chemical terrorism, and the misuse of toxic materials as weapons. A comprehensive approach to national implementation under Article VII of the Convention is certainly relevant to addressing chemical terrorism, including ensuring the accountability of non-State actors.

Achieving a world free of chemical weapons, therefore, should include accountability for whoever responsible for deplorable actions in the use of chemical weapons.

Indonesia, therefore, reiterates its strong opposition to the use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere and under any circumstances. It is reprehensible and a completely flagrant violation of the Convention and all norms of international law.

Indonesia remains firm in her commitment to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in ensuring the total prohibition of chemical weapons globally; enhancing cooperation on the management of chemicals; ensuring security and safety in the use of chemicals; and encouraging cooperation and collaboration in peaceful development of the chemical industry.

Mr. Chairperson,

Indonesia attaches great importance to the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention. In this regard, we will continue to support the Secretariat's efforts and programs in the implementation of the Convention, including strengthening the implementation of Article XI on Economic and Technological Activities. Therefore, we must ensure the fullest possible exchange of chemicals, equipment, scientific and technical information for the peaceful uses of chemistry.

Indonesia appreciates the efforts made by the Article XI Facilitator and welcomes the continuation of constructive dialogues with all States Parties.

Moreover, Indonesia also attaches great importance to the efforts to promote International Cooperation and Assistance. Effective International Cooperation and Assistance, which constitutes the highest political relevance to the objectives of the Convention, will have a positive impact on the full implementation and enhancement of universality of the Convention.

Whilst noting of the draft biennial programme and budget (2022-2023) of the OPCW, Indonesia wishes to highlight that international cooperation and capacity building programs should remain as the cornerstone of international cooperation and assistance with due regard to ensure an effective implementation of Chemical Weapons Convention. States Parties and the OPCW should enhance their collective efforts to strengthen cooperation, especially in capacity building activities in the area of chemical safety and security.

Meanwhile, we should also consider means of strengthening our Organization to deal with on-going and future challenges together.

Under the currently more challenging financial conditions, my delegation believes that the draft revised Programme and Budget for 2023 is well adjusted and carefully addressed with the most effective and efficient manner without imposing a much heavier burden on the States Parties.

My delegation takes note with great interest on the advancement of the Centre for Chemistry and Technology and expected to be operational next year 2023. We look forward with a renewed energy as the rise of the ChemTech Center would serve as our heightened representation of international cooperation in the peaceful use of chemistry.

With regard to geographical representation, we commend the OPCW for its continued efforts in promoting gender parity at the professional/technical level and also encourage that the application of equitable geographical representation could be achieved as well. In line to that, my delegation would like to see an increase in the geographical representation of the staffs of the TS as mandated under the Article VIII.44, particularly for talents from developing countries to gain wider exposure in the field of their expertise.

Indonesia commends Ambassador Lauri Kuusing of Estonia for the excellent preparatory work made as Chairperson of the Open-Ended Working Group for the Preparation of the

Fifth Review Conference. Let me echo and once again reiterate the importance of the principle of consensus amongst States Parties. It is therefore of the utmost importance that States Parties should have mutual trust, much stronger political will, and resolute efforts based on good faith for the full implementation of the Convention and the vital roles the Organization will play in the future.

In closing, let me echo the distinguished speakers before me in conveying our full cooperation to you for the success of this Conference.

I would like to request that this statement be published as an official document of the Conference of States Parties and be posted on both external server and the public website.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.