



**OPCW**

**Executive Council**

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ENGLISH and SPANISH only

**EL SALVADOR**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR  
TO THE OPCW AT THE 101ST SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Director-General,  
Mr Chairperson,  
Permanent Representatives, and  
Observers of the Executive Council,

My delegation wishes to reiterate its support for the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia, Ziad M.D. Al Atiyah, as Chairperson of the Executive Council. We express our confidence in your leadership for this session of the Council.

Likewise, it is a good time to express our appreciation of the work of the Director-General, Ambassador Fernando Arias, and that of the Technical Secretariat and its preparation of the reports for the 101st Session of the Executive Council.

We have noted with interest the reports submitted by the Vice-Chairpersons of the Executive Council.

El Salvador, in its capacity as one of the Vice-Chairs of the Executive Council, wishes to reiterate its commitment to the work of this important body, working in concert with the Chairperson, the Technical Secretariat, and the States Parties.

On the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Chemical Weapons Convention, it is a good time to recall the achievements that have been reached, as well as the challenges that lie ahead for the States Parties.

We applaud the progress made to date regarding the Centre for Chemistry and Technology project (ChemTech Centre), which we hope will make it possible for National Authorities to become more involved and foster the exchange of knowledge among all those involved. We trust that the Centre will help strengthen the capacities of developing States.

We have seen the laudable efforts on the part of the International Cooperation and Assistance Division towards strengthening the capacities of the States Parties. In particular, we would underscore the valuable legal assistance provided to countries that are in the process of adopting national legislation, such as El Salvador.

It is with great pleasure that El Salvador received a visit from the Deputy Director-General, Ambassador Odette Melono, on 24–27 September 2022. During this visit, she had the opportunity to meet with our National Authority, the Vice President of the Republic, the Vice



Minister of Foreign Affairs, and officials from the Defence and Foreign Relations Commissions.

Meanwhile, our country hosted the regional workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean on best practices in developing a legislative and regulatory framework for chemical security. We express our gratitude for the excellent coordination provided by the Technical Secretariat for this event, which made it possible to learn and share experiences relevant to legislative and regulatory frameworks in chemical security with other countries in the region, and some countries outside of the region. We support the OPCW's continued workshops and activities to help strengthen knowledge and exchange experience and good practices among its Member States.

As we approach the preparations for the Fifth Review Conference, we would like to express our interest in actively participating in the Open-Ended Working Group. Effectively, we must achieve concrete results that will help fortify the Organisation, universality, and increased and broader implementation of the Convention. In this regard, we believe that verification and cooperation among the Member States are fundamental aspects that we must keep in mind during the course of the Fifth Review Conference.

Just like other countries in the Latin American and Caribbean region, El Salvador is in favour of balanced geographical representation across the Technical Secretariat. To this end, it is necessary to strengthen the knowledge and candidates of the region to ensure that they have the requisite qualifications. As such, this issue is of particular importance for El Salvador during the Fifth Review Conference.

My country again expresses its support for the universality of the Convention and again condemns any use of chemical weapons.

Finally, we find it necessary for both the Technical Secretariat and the National Authorities to work together towards ensuring that investigations can continue to be conducted on site.

I kindly request that this statement be considered an official document of the 101st Session of the Executive Council and published on the Organisation's website and extranet.

Thank you.

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