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Intervention on **Programme and Budget** – Item 13: Mid-biennium Draft Revised Programme and Budget of the OPCW for 2023, submitted by the Executive Council, and all items pertaining to this Budget

INTERVENTION UNDER AGENDA ITEM 13 BY AMBASSADOR SUSANNAH GORDON, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF NEW ZEALAND TO THE OPCW AT THE TWENTY-SEVETH CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES

Chair, Director General, distinguished colleagues,

Aotearoa New Zealand believes that we as States Parties have an opportunity to firmly demonstrate our commitment – and responsibility – to support the work of the OPCW. Together, we ensure that the OPCW has the financial means to effectively fulfil its role.

Indeed, ensuring that our agreed OPCW Programme of work can be delivered is of critical importance.

Aotearoa New Zealand considers that the technical update to the Biennial Programme and Budget of the OPCW 2022 – 2023 is reasonable and justified.

New Zealand will support the adoption of the programme and budget, and we call on all States Parties to adopt a consensus decision.

We are pleased to demonstrate our commitment to the OPCW by transmitting our assessed contributions to the Budget on time and in full. While we understand that many national budgets are under pressure, we urge all States Parties to do likewise.

Thank you Mr Chairperson.

We ask that this statement be made an official-series document and published on Catalyst and the public website of the OPCW.