



OPCW

Conference of the States Parties

Twenty-Seventh Session
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ENGLISH and RUSSIAN only

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR A.V. SHULGIN
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE
OPCW AT THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
STATES PARTIES EXPLANATION OF VOTE UNDER AGENDA ITEM 13**

Mr Chairperson,
Distinguished delegates,

The draft of the revised Programme and Budget for the year 2023 contains provisions that violate the principles of zero nominal growth and zero actual growth, in addition to contradicting the Financial Rules of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, specifically with regard to the return of cash surpluses, and stipulates the use of funds to finance the activities of the illegitimate Investigation and Identification Team. As a result, the Russian Federation has voted against the draft decision.

Financial matters are exceptionally important for the operation of the Organisation. We wish to state that the Russian Federation, as a responsible State, did not intend to complicate the activities of the OPCW. However, we cannot make peace with the way in which the budgetary process has been run in recent years. At the OPCW, just like at other international institutions, we speak in favour of prioritising the approval of these types of decisions, and exclusively based on a consensus; we call for duly taking into account the principled positions of all countries and a search for a mutually acceptable way forward.

I request that this statement be circulated as an official document of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Conference of the States Parties and published on the Catalyst platform and the OPCW website.

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