



OPCW

Conference of the States Parties

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ENGLISH and FRENCH only

FRANCE

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC TO THE
OPCW AT THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
STATES PARTIES UNDER AGENDA ITEM 9(D)**

Mr Chairperson,

By attacking Ukraine, Russia has undermined the very foundations of our international order. It is a grave state of affairs that one of the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council would attack the founding principles of the United Nations in this way.

France reaffirms its unqualified support for the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders, and calls on Russia to put an end to this war and to withdraw the Russian army from Ukrainian territory.

In 2022, France made a voluntary contribution specifically earmarked for assistance and protection measures in Ukraine, so that it can confront the threat of use of chemical weapons within the context of the Russian aggression.

Further, the campaign of manipulation and disinformation that Russia has carried out in this forum undermines any trust or credibility that it may have had. Its repeated attacks on the OPCW Technical Secretariat (“the Secretariat”), aimed at casting doubt on its impartiality, are unacceptable.

Accordingly, France reiterates its full support and confidence in the Director-General and the Secretariat, whose independence and impartiality are known to all.

My delegation would ask that this statement be considered as an official document of this Twenty-Seventh Session of the Conference and that it be published on Catalyst and on the official OPCW website.

Thank you.

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