



OPCW

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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 UNDER AGENDA ITEM 3**

Mr Chairperson,

We regret to state that a number of States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention belonging to one military and political bloc are intensifying efforts to further usurp the activities of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. The Eastern European Group has become the latest victim of these efforts; its work has become completely paralysed. In particular, the Group was unable to achieve a consensus on the nomination of two agreed-upon candidates for the post of Vice-Chairpersons of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Conference of the States Parties.

The Russian Federation was among the originators and was the initiator of several international disarmament mechanisms, including the OPCW; it is one of the guarantors of the international regime of the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and a consistent proponent of the principle of equal and indivisible security for all. It has always taken the most responsible approach to meeting its obligations as a member of the Convention. In particular, Russia destroyed the world's largest stockpile of chemical weapons, which it inherited from the Soviet Union, before the deadline.

Russia is one of the countries with a developed chemical industry, as well as scientific, technical, and educational capabilities, in addition to the most effective non-proliferation mechanisms, including control over the production, turnover, and transfer of products that are sensitive from a chemical non-proliferation perspective.

Within the walls of the OPCW, Russia has always proceeded based on the importance of taking into account the positions and interests of each State Party. We support the balanced composition of its management and working bodies.

At the same time, there is a clearly worrisome trend in which a group of countries in the Euro-Atlantic bloc are attempting to dominate the OPCW's policy-making organs, thereby attempting to usurp the entirety of the authorities in our Organisation. Examples of this kind of approach are the decisions that were pushed through the Conference to assign so-called attribution, as well as the decision to deprive the Syrian Arab Republic of its rights and privileges under the Convention. As a result, a relative minority of States Parties is forcing its will upon other States Parties. Right now, there are four representatives of the Euro-Atlantic community jockeying for a position as Vice-Chairperson of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the



Conference, meaning that if their plan comes to fruition, this group will have secured four of the ten Vice-Chairperson posts for the Conference, i.e., 40%. That is why Russia confirms the nomination of the candidacy of the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the OPCW, Ambassador A.V. Shulgin, for a Vice-Chairperson post at the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Conference.

We call upon our partners in the OPCW to take the above into account while reviewing the nominations for the two Vice-Chairpersons of the Twenty-Seventh Session of the Conference per the quota allotted the Eastern European Group in line with paragraph 79 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference.

We 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 OPCW's website and the Catalyst platform.

Thank you for your attention.

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