



**OPCW**

**Conference of the States Parties**

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**CUBA**

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR ANET PINO RIVERO  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA TO THE OPCW  
AT THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES  
PARTIES UNDER AGENDA ITEM 24**

Mr Chairperson,

Please allow me to begin by congratulating H.E. Lauri Kuusing, Ambassador of Estonia, for his excellent work leading the Open-Ended Working Group for the Preparation of the Fifth Review Conference, as well as the Ambassadors of Japan, Mexico, Algeria, and the Netherlands, members of the Bureau, for the support they have offered.

Cuba assigns great importance to this preparatory process, as it guarantees the success of the Fifth Review Conference. We have participated in different consultations and we will continue to do so responsibly and constructively in order to contribute to the efforts of the Working Group.

We reiterate our commitment to advancing towards the objective of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, including the prohibition and elimination of all weapons of mass destruction. In this regard, we reiterate the need to complete the destruction of the stockpile of the sole remaining possessor State in order to guarantee the implementation of the provisions of the Convention, its Verification Annex, and the relevant decisions that have been adopted. Without a doubt, achieving this goal ahead of the Fifth Review Conference would be an excellent result to showcase on the path towards chemical disarmament.

The OPCW must preserve the prestige that has characterised it by achieving the goal for which it was established and maintaining an effective balance among its four pillars. The OPCW has the authority and responsibility to verify the implementation of the provisions of the Convention, including the main objective, which is to achieve the complete and total destruction of chemical weapons.

It is important—both for the Fifth Review Conference and for the preparations for it—to maintain respect for the technical mandate of the Organisation and strict compliance with the Convention, without any reinterpretations or extension of mandates that are not provided for in it. Politicisation should be avoided in discussions of matters, as it leads to confrontations among States Parties. The preparations should mean the return of consensus within the Organisation and the success of the Conference.



In conclusion, I would like to reiterate our full cooperation with the work of the Open-Ended Working Group and we hope that the Fifth Review Conference will be able to close with the adoption of a balanced document representing the interest of all States Parties.

Thank you.

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