



OPCW

Review Conference

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FRANCE

**JOINT STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF SEVENTY-FOUR MEMBER STATES OF
THE OPCW DELIVERED BY H.E. AMBASSADOR FRANÇOIS ALABRUNE
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC TO THE OPCW
AT THE FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES
PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS
CONVENTION**

This joint statement is issued on behalf of the following States Parties to the OPCW: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the State of Palestine, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America.

On the occasion of the Fifth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (“the Fifth Review Conference”), we reiterate our unequivocal commitment to achieving the object and purpose of the Chemical Weapons Convention (“the Convention”) and to working together for a world free of chemical weapons. The work of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) is essential to the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention.

Since the entry into force of the Convention 26 years ago, the OPCW has already verified the destruction of almost all of the declared chemical weapons stockpiles in the world and should continue to implement its disarmament mandate as well as focus on preventing the further re-emergence of chemical weapons and promoting international cooperation.

We express our deepest appreciation for the work undertaken in the framework of the Open-Ended Working Group under the chairmanship of H.E. Ambassador Lauri Kuusing for the preparation of the Fifth Review Conference, as well as the work of the Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole, H.E. Ambassador José Antonio Zabalgaitia, the friends of the Chairperson, and the Chairperson of the Review Conference, H.E. Ambassador Henk Cor van der Kwast.



While we regret that we were not able to adopt a final document, notwithstanding the fact that the majority of subjects covered received very broad support, we recognise the constructive efforts of a wide range of delegations and their commitment to a consensual outcome.

We express our determination to continue working on the actionable matters addressed in the draft provisional text in order to achieve positive results and confirm our readiness to make use of the next sessions of the Executive Council and Conference of the States Parties to this end.

We reiterate our commitment to the Convention and to working constructively with all delegations to achieve tangible results on matters of mutual concern.

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