



OPCW

Review Conference

Fifth Session
15 – 19 May 2023

RC-5/NAT.58
17 May 2023
ENGLISH and SPANISH only

VENEZUELA

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF
VENEZUELA TO THE OPCW AT THE FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION OF
THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
UNDER AGENDA ITEM 9(C)(III)**

Mr Chairperson,

The Venezuelan delegation is convinced that the destruction of all chemical weapons is a fundamental objective of the Convention, and also includes abandoned chemical weapons, a task that is worthy of the attention of all the States Parties.

In this regard, we welcome the virtual visit organised by the People's Republic of China on the chemical weapons abandoned on its territory by Japan. During the visit, we had the opportunity to improve our understanding and awareness of this matter, which is of real importance for the Organisation.

Now, it is time to express to this Conference our concern regarding the general progress in the destruction of the chemical weapons abandoned by Japan on the territory of the People's Republic of China, that what was expected has not happened to date. We believe that all necessary resources should be made available to advance more quickly towards achieving the objectives that have been set in favour of a world free of chemical weapons.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela believes that the OPCW plays a fundamental role in this process in terms of verification and supervision. It is especially worth mentioning support for the State that has the responsibility of destroying the abandoned chemical weapons through the full implementation of a new destruction plan in line with the decision adopted by the Executive Council at its 101st Session, all under the authority of the Convention.

Finally, we request that this statement be considered an official document of the Fifth Review Conference and published on the Catalyst platform and the Organisation's website.

Thank you.

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