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Ambassade d'Algérie à La Haye

سغارة الجزائر بالماي

Statement by Ambassador Salima Abdelhak, the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the OPCW At the Special Session of the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) EC-M-67 The Hague, 1er July 2025

Mr. Chairperson,

Mr Director general,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

Let me at the outset extend Algeria's sincere congratulations to H.E. Mr. Thomas Schieb, Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OPCW, on assuming the chairmanship of the Executive Council. You can count on the full support of our delegation.

We also express our appreciation to the Director-General and his staff for organizing this special session, given the critical issue under consideration and for the information shared with us this morning.

Convening this special session on the request of Iran, a state member of the OPCW and the Executive Council occurs in a sensitive time marked by conflicts that constitute a source of threats to international security, international law and disarmament architecture. The information provided by Iran today about the Israeli attacks targeting chemical facilities currently under OPCW verification, arises serious concerns particularly given the potential for widespread contamination by hazardous chemical substances, with grave consequences for human health and the environment.

These issues deserve the full attention of our Organization, whose ultimate goal is to address all chemical threats, including the potential risk chemical safety and security arising from armed conflicts targeting chemical facilities. We are looking forward to receiving more information about the impact of this incident in order to explore ways and means to ensure, in appropriate forms and frameworks, safeguarding the protection and security of chemical facilities.

On the other side, we also would like to recall that Israel, as a signatory of the CWC, regularly attending the sessions of the CSP shall -at the very least- refrain from challenging the Convention through actions that constitute a serious chemical threat such as targeting chemical facilities.

This condemnable incident reminds us that CWC universality remains a top priority and the Technical Secretariat is requested to double its efforts towards this objective. The full adherence to CWC by all states is essential to ensuring a world free from the threat of chemical weapons.

Thank you for your attention