



**Statement by the Delegation of Japan to the OPCW at the 109th  
Session of the Executive Council  
Under Agenda Item 6(c)**

Japan welcomes the Technical Secretariat's efforts to enhance its effectiveness by establishing the Office of Special Missions in Syria. We stress the importance of knowledge management as well as the need to retain professional staff members with relevant experience.

The transfer of power to new authorities in Syria presents an opportunity to clarify the full extent and scope of the chemical weapons programme. Japan believes that the conclusion of the agreement on the privileges and immunities between the OPCW and Syria represents an important step forward. We hope this further enables the OPCW to conduct its missions smoothly in Syria and produces tangible progress.

We are mindful of the two TS notes on Estimated Costs of OPCW Mandated Activities in Syria and the Call for Voluntary Contributions. The threat of chemical weapons proliferation in Syrian territory and the region remains a grave concern for us. Japan believes the OPCW should be equipped with a sufficient financial foundation to continue its activities in light of these imminent threats. Therefore, we are particularly interested in the financial implications that OPCW Missions in Syria may have on the overall budget for the years 2026 to 2027. Japan reaffirms our commitment to the OPCW's Syrian Missions in close coordination with the International community.

Lastly, we continue to underline the utmost importance of identifying the perpetrators responsible for the use of chemical weapons. Despite many

challenges, the Technical Secretariat, particularly the IIT, had been making steady progress regarding the accountability of chemical weapons use. We commend their invaluable work and urge all States Parties to remain united and provide full support to ensure accountability for the future use of chemical weapons.