

**Statement by Poland
at the 109th session of the Executive Council
Agenda item 6(e): Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use**

Mr. Chairperson,

Poland fully supports the statement of the European Union.

As stated in the General debate, Poland reaffirms its unwavering support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within Ukraine's internationally recognised borders. We condemn Russia's full-scale unprovoked aggression against Ukraine, manifesting a blatant violation of international law, including the UN Charter. The aggressor must not prevail.

Poland is extremely concerned by the growing body of evidence that in the ongoing ruthless war against Ukraine the Russian Federation violates also the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC).

We are deeply concerned by the information that since the beginning of its full-scale aggression against Ukraine, the Russian Federation has been using ammunition containing toxic chemicals. And we are not talking here about single, separate incidents, but about a massive, systematic violation of the Convention that is already counted in thousands and thousands of cases.

The use of chemical weapons in the ongoing Russia's aggression against Ukraine has been independently confirmed by the Technical Secretariat. On the 20th of June 2025 it published its third report on the matter, following yet another technical assistance visit requested by Ukraine. The reports clearly and independently confirm the presence on the battlefields in Ukraine chemicals forbidden to be used as a method of warfare.

Poland draws the attention of the Council to the joint statement by the Dutch and German authorities issued last Friday, 4th of July, which points to the reports of Dutch and German intelligence services warning that Russia's use of chemical weapons in Ukraine is intensifying. These reports assess that Russia's military leadership, as well as the Russian radiological, chemical and biological defence troops, support the use of chemical agents and are actively facilitating their employment. Furthermore, they conclude that the use of both teargas and chloropicrin by Russian troops has now become standard practice and commonplace and will highly probably remain a threat in the future. It is

extremely alarming to learn that in addition to the massive investments in chemical weapons programme, the Russian Federation is also expanding its chemical weapons research and recruiting new scientists for that purpose.

Mr. Chairperson,

States Parties simply cannot ignore this information. For the sake of credibility and integrity of the CWC the use of chemical weapons in the Russia's aggressions against Ukraine must be further investigated, with the aim of identifying the perpetrators, organisers, sponsors or otherwise involved and ensuring their full accountability. There must be no return to the use of chemical weapons nor impunity for their use.

Thank you.