

STATEMENT DELIVERED BY

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EMBASSY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, THE HAGUE**

**AT THE 110TH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE ORGANIZATION
FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS**

7th - 10th October, 2025

Mr. Chairman,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

I am honored to present this statement on behalf of the Nigerian delegation on the occasion of the 110th Session of the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). At the outset, I would like to commend, H. E. Thomas Schieb, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany as Chairperson of the One Hundred and Tenth (110th) Session of the Executive Council (EC). Our delegation is committed to providing unwavering support and collaboration throughout your Chairmanship.

2. Secondly, we extend our appreciation to the Director General of the OPCW, H.E. Amb. Fernando Arias, and his dedicated team for their exceptional stewardship of the Technical Secretariat (TS). Their tireless efforts and expertise have been instrumental in ensuring the smooth functioning of the OPCW.

3. Furthermore, our delegation aligns itself with the statement of the African Group delivered by H.E Vusimuzi Philemon Madonsela, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Africa, and the statement of the Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement that are States Parties to the CWC and China, delivered by H.E. Mirjam Blaak Sow, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uganda.

Mr. Chairman,

4. This session offer us another opportunity to review the work of the TS as well as the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). Since our last meeting, the global security landscape continues to be characterized by heightened geopolitical tensions, unconventional threats and increased risks of the use of emerging technology. Although these challenges persist, it should not deter us, but rather embolden our collective resolve towards the achievement of our goal of a world free of chemical weapons.

5. In light of these positive developments, our delegation warmly welcomes the progress made on the Syria dossier. We also commend the efforts of the TS in this endeavor, as outlined in the recent briefing to State Parties on September 30, 2025. However, closing the Syrian dossier will require our collective effort. The task ahead demands financial, technical, and in-kind assistance to establish a predictable path and finally resolve this issue. The Office of Special Mission (OSM) will play a crucial role in achieving this task. Therefore, our delegation

supports the draft decision sponsored by the State of Qatar on “Expedited on-site destruction of any remnants of chemical weapons in Syria.” We continue to encourage all State Parties to provide all necessary budgetary, extra-budgetary, and in-kind support towards this goal.

Mr. Chairman,

6. Capacity building, training and knowledge exchange remain very crucial if State Parties are to effectively implement the CWC. Therefore, my delegation is delighted that the African Programme is entering its 7th Phase. Indeed, the Programme continues to live up to expectation, addressing needs and challenges faced by African nations in the implementation of the CWC. It is our believe that the next phase would consolidate on previous milestones with accruable gains for the continent.

7. We also recognize that there cannot be global peace and security if we do not work in close collaboration. To this end, we encourage the TS and the international community to sustain efforts towards achieving the full universality of the Convention. Our delegation uses this opportunity to call on States not yet party to the Convention, to accede to it without further delay or preconditions.

Mr. Chairman,

8. Emerging technologies continue to pose a range of threats, from cybersecurity risks such as AI-driven hacking and deepfakes, to the erosion of privacy through pervasive data collection and facial recognition. Despite these threats, emerging technology holds great potential. AI has the propensity to significantly impact the implementation of the CWC by enhancing monitoring, detection and response capabilities related to chemical weapons and toxic substances. To fully capitalize on the immense benefits of these technologies, the TS should adopt a multi-layered approach that prioritizes innovation and research while addressing ethical concerns and mitigating risks.

My delegation requests that the full version of this Statement be circulated and posted on the External Server as an official document of this Session.

I Thank You