

## **Bangladesh Intervention on Agenda Item 10**

### **Draft Report of The OPCW on the Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction in 2024**

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Mr. Chair,

The Bangladesh delegation appreciates the Technical Secretariat for its comprehensive report on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2024. We also commend the OPCW's unwavering commitment to a world free of chemical weapons while acknowledging the significant milestones achieved over the past year.

2024 marked continued progress in multiple areas of the Convention's implementation. While we recognize the OPCW's sustained efforts in addressing the issue of chemical weapons, we encourage the Organisation to build on this momentum by ensuring timely and impartial investigations of alleged use, particularly in conflict-affected regions such as Gaza and the West Bank. Sustained vigilance and credible investigative processes remain essential to upholding the integrity of the Convention and reinforcing global confidence in its implementation.

In parallel with these investigative responsibilities, Bangladesh welcomes the expansion of the OPCW's capacity-building initiatives through the ChemTech Centre and other programmes, which have trained thousands of experts worldwide. To support more effective implementation of the Convention, we urge the ChemTech Centre to place a special focus on developing countries, which often face resource and technical constraints that limit their ability to maintain robust chemical safety and security frameworks.

We also note with interest the Organization's engagement on emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and its integration into the broader framework for implementing the Convention. We hope that such initiatives will enable the OPCW to remain both relevant and proactive in addressing evolving threats, including the growing risks posed by chemical terrorism.

Mr. Chair,

Bangladesh reaffirms its strong commitment to the universality and full implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention. We stand ready to cooperate with all States Parties and the Secretariat in advancing our shared goal of a world free from chemical weapons.

Thank you.

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