



STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR
SIBUSISIWE MNGOMEZULU
ON BEHALF OF
THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI
AT THE
THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES
TO THE ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL
WEAPONS

THE HAGUE
24TH – 28TH NOVEMBER 2025

Chairperson, Director-General, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

It is an honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the government of the Kingdom of Eswatini during this 30th Session of the Conference of States Parties.

From the outset distinguished Chairperson, allow me to congratulate you Ambassador Agustin Vasquez Gomez on presiding over this Thirtieth Session, a task that you have executed ably in a past time. Be assured of our delegation's full support throughout this session. We further wish to commend your predecessor, Ambassador Almir Šahović, for his dedicated leadership, steadfast stewardship, and valuable contributions to the work of the Conference during his tenure.

We also extend warm congratulations to Ambassador Sabrina Dallafior Matter of Switzerland on her recommendation for appointment as the next Director General, an important milestone for the Organisation, particularly in advancing gender equality. We further express appreciation to Director General Ambassador Fernando Arias for his comprehensive report and congratulate our dear friend Ambassador Arias for a distinguished tenure at the helm of this our organisation, a dedicated service indeed.

The Kingdom of Eswatini remains firmly committed to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and to strengthening the global norm against the development, production, stockpiling, transfer and use of chemical weapons. As a States Party with no chemical industry of concern, and one consistently assessed as low-risk and chemical-weapon-free, we view our engagement with the OPCW as part of our responsibility to help safeguard regional and global peace and security.

We underscore our absolute and unequivocal condemnation of the use of chemical weapons by any actor, under any circumstances, anywhere in the world. Any erosion of this norm threatens not only international security but also the integrity of multilateralism itself. In this regard, we reiterate our call for all deliberations within the OPCW to remain free from politicisation and to be guided by consensus, professionalism, and respect for the Convention.

Our delegation places strong emphasis on international cooperation and assistance, particularly the full and effective implementation of Article 11. We continue to benefit from OPCW capacity-building initiatives, and we welcome the progress of the Seventh Phase of the OPCW Programme for Africa, which remains essential to strengthening national implementation on the continent. Eswatini encourages further investment in Africa focused programming, consistent with the OPCW's long standing commitments. In this regard, we also value the growing role of the Centre for Chemistry and Technology in enhancing the Technical Secretariat's capabilities, especially in training, research, and technical support to developing States Parties.

Chairperson, Eswatini commends the Organisation's efforts to advance gender equality and calls for continued support for the meaningful participation of women and girls in chemistry and disarmament. We also note the growing relevance of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, and appreciate the OPCW's initiatives to ensure that all regions, particularly developing countries, have access to the knowledge and tools required to manage these technologies responsibly.

We continue to support universality of the Convention and encourage remaining states to join without delay. We also reaffirm our solidarity with all victims of chemical weapons and emphasise the importance of sustained contributions to the International Support Network for Victims.

In conclusion, Chairperson, the Kingdom of Eswatini remains a committed, States Party, dedicated to working with the OPCW and fellow States Parties to uphold the letter and spirit of the Convention. We respectfully request that this statement be issued as an official document of the Conference and published on the OPCW website.

I thank you