

**Statement by Her Excellency Ambassador Ramatoulaye BA FAYE,
Permanent Representative of Senegal to the OPCW,
at the Thirtieth Session of the Conference of the States Parties
to the Chemical Weapons Convention
The Hague, 24–27 November 2025**

Mr. Chairperson,
Mr. Director-General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Senegal aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Coordinator of the African Group, His Excellency Mr. Vusimuzi Madonsela, Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa, as well as with that of the Non-Aligned Movement and China. Allow me to add the following remarks in my national capacity.

Mr. Chairperson,

Senegal reaffirms in the strongest possible terms its absolute condemnation of the use of chemical weapons, by anyone, anywhere, and under any circumstances.

No justification can ever be invoked for the use of such weapons, the prohibition of which constitutes a fundamental pillar of international humanitarian law and of the multilateral disarmament architecture.

My country reiterates its unwavering commitment to the full, balanced, and universal implementation of the Convention, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to join it without delay and without conditions.

We welcome the progress achieved in the destruction of chemical weapons in Syria, following the political developments that occurred in 2024, and we encourage the continuation of a technical, constructive, and transparent dialogue between the Syrian Arab Republic and the Technical Secretariat, under the supervision of the OPCW's policymaking organs.

Mr. Chairperson,

Senegal welcomes the renewed momentum generated by the sixth phase of the Programme for Africa, as well as the inclusive consultation process launched for the design of the seventh phase, planned for 2026. This Programme remains an essential tool for solidarity and for strengthening African capacities in the areas of chemical security, national legislation, and the promotion of the peaceful uses of chemistry.

We also wish to highlight the importance of the strengthened partnership between the OPCW and the African Union Commission, in light of the Memorandum of Understanding linking the two institutions and the consultation cycles held in 2024 and 2025. This partnership will make a decisive contribution to the domestication of the Convention across the continent, the prevention of chemical terrorism, and the integration of African priorities into the Organisation's strategic planning.

Mr. Chairperson,

My delegation reaffirms its commitment to the principle of equitable geographical representation and effective gender equality within the Technical Secretariat. We

express our satisfaction with the appointment of the Designated OPCW Director-General, Her Excellency Ms. Sabrina Dellafor Matter, and we pay tribute to the outgoing Director-General, His Excellency Mr. Fernando Arias, for his constant dedication, professionalism, and sense of duty throughout his tenure.

Mr. Chairperson,

Senegal commends the work of the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism, chaired by Ambassador Madonsela, as well as the progress of the CHEMEX AFRICA II project, which contributes to strengthening regional capacities to respond to threats posed by non-State actors.

My country draws attention to the need to regulate emerging technologies—particularly artificial intelligence (AI), nanotechnologies, and autonomous systems—whose potential misuse could affect global chemical security. In this regard, we welcome the Global Conference on the Role of AI in the Implementation of the Convention, jointly organised by Morocco and the Technical Secretariat in 2024, as well as the Shanghai workshop held in June 2025.

Mr. Chairperson,

Senegal recalls that the promotion of international cooperation and peaceful uses remains at the heart of the Convention. In this regard, our country supports the full implementation of Article XI, notably through programmes related to integrated chemical management, the improvement of analytical capacities, and the dissemination of scientific knowledge for sustainable development.

My delegation also encourages stronger linkages between sustainable chemistry, environmental protection, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in the fields of health, scientific education, and industrial risk prevention.

Senegal urges States Parties to preserve the technical, inclusive, and consensual nature of the OPCW, which remains the cornerstone of its effectiveness and credibility. In an international context marked by multiple tensions, our Organisation must continue to embody a model of calm multilateralism, grounded in transparency, mutual respect, and constructive cooperation.

Before concluding, Senegal renews its full confidence in the new Director-General and the entire Technical Secretariat for the continued implementation of the Convention's mandate, in a spirit of efficiency, equity, and institutional continuity.

I request that this statement be issued as an official document of the Thirtieth Session of the Conference of the States Parties.

I thank you for your kind attention.