



**Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela: Statement by H.E. Ambassador Dr. Hector Constant-Rosales, Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the OPCW on behalf of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations that are part of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (CWC): Belarus, China, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Iran, Laos, Mali, Nicaragua, State of Palestine, Russia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Venezuela at the 30<sup>o</sup> Session of the Conference of the States Parties under agenda item eight: General debate**

*New York, 24-28 November 2025*

**Mr. President,**

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the Member States of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations that are part to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (CWC).

**Mr. President,**

The Member States of our grouping note with serious concern the continued deterioration and ever-growing unpredictability of the global security situation, as demonstrated, among others, by recent tragic and intolerable developments in different regions of the world.

In this context, we recognize the role of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and call for it to preserve its character as an independent specialized international organization, insofar as essential for effectively strengthening the global disarmament, non-proliferation, arms-control regimes.

We are confident that the OPCW is still able to serve as a trustworthy platform for dialogue. We recall that, according to Article IX of the CWC, the States Parties shall consult and cooperate, directly among themselves or through the OPCW or other appropriate international procedures, on any matter which may be raised relating to the object and purpose, or the implementation of the provisions, of the CWC.

**Mr. President,**

We cannot overemphasize the vital importance of abstaining from any disinformation and unsubstantiated allegations against any State Party, in

particular related to allegations of using chemical weapons and of being “non-compliant” with the CWC on the basis of reports in media or any other open sources, including non-governmental entities. This practice undermines the credibility of the OPCW and must be terminated and avoided once and for all.

In this context, we urge the States Parties to abandon the deliberate politization of the OPCW, to reject double standards and to return its work to the consensus-based environment.

Moreover, we also urge States Parties and the Technical Secretariat to give a responsible and impartial treatment and to address with equal attention and professionalism concerns expressed by all State Parties, as well as information provided by them. Any attempt to enforce – or rather impose – decisions by a group of States Parties, tailored to suit their political preference and entrenched phobias, despite the clear lack of widespread support, is something we ought to avoid at all cost.

In this context, we believe that the scope and substance of the mandate of the OPCW are clearly and fully prescribed in the CWC. As such, any decisions adopted by their Policy-Making Organs (PMO) shall respect this clear mandate. This is why, for instance, we consider decision C-SS-4/DEC.3, of 27 June 2018, which was adopted by a registered vote, within the context of the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties, as inconsistent with both the letter and spirit of the CWC.

In addition, the establishment of the Investigation and Identification Team (IIT) constitutes a substantive decision that goes beyond the mandate conferred by the Convention. As such, it represents a modification of the Convention’s scope.

**Mr. President,**

Any future decision empowering the Technical Secretariat or creating A new structure, such as the Office of Special Missions (OSM), shall be taken by consensus, following a transparent, open and inclusive process of consultations amongst all the States Parties. The sovereign equality of all States Parties must be unconditionally respected.

Allow us to stress, on the one hand, that for the OPCW to be effective, it must preserve its technical, impartial and unbiased character, and, on the other one, that it is of utmost importance for it to reject attempts aimed at politicizing the OPCW. We call for this Organization to return its original spirit, as a technical body.

At last, we request that this statement be considered as an official document of this session and posted on the OPCW catalyst and public website.

I thank you, Mr. President.