

STATEMENT BY MR. PHUNG MANH NGOC
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HEAD OF THE VIETNAMESE DELEGATION AT THE 30TH
SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES

Mr. Chairperson,

His Excellency Fernando Arias, Director-General,

Distinguished delegates,

At the outset, we would like to welcome H.E. Agustín Vásquez Gómez, Ambassador of El Salvador, as the Chairperson of the 30th Session of the Conference of States Parties and express our confidence in his able leadership to steer this conference to a successful conclusion.

We also wish to thank the Director-General, H.E. Fernando Arias and the Technical Secretariat for their hard work over the past year.

We would also like to congratulate H.E. Ambassador Sabrina Dallafior Matter of Switzerland on being recommended by the EC 110 as the incoming Director General of the OPCW.

Mr. Chairperson,

Coming from a country that has endured multiple wars and suffered heavily from various types of weapons, including toxic chemicals, Viet Nam understands profoundly that the consequences of toxic chemicals are not only measured in immediate casualties, but also in their severe and long-lasting impacts on human health, the environment and sustainable development. It is precisely this historical experience that strengthens our resolve to contribute actively to the joint efforts of the international community to completely eliminate chemical weapons. Viet Nam firmly condemns any use of chemical weapons, anywhere, by anyone, under any circumstances, as a grave violation of international law and the conscience of humanity.

Viet Nam strongly supports the Chemical Weapons Convention, including the complete and verifiable destruction of chemical weapons and the full, balanced implementation of all its pillars. We highly value the central role of the OPCW in assisting States Parties in this regard, on the basis of transparency, objectivity and non-politicization, and remain committed to fully implementing our obligations while strengthening practical cooperation, experience-sharing and capacity-building, particularly for developing countries.

Viet Nam also stresses the need to guarantee the legitimate rights and interests of all States in accessing, researching, transferring technology and developing chemicals for peaceful purposes. We support the shift in the OPCW's focus from the destruction of existing stockpiles to preventing

chemical risks, enhancing chemical safety and security, and building capacity. The Organisation's priorities and allocation of resources should be adjusted to reflect these requirements in a balanced and inclusive manner.

Mr. Chairperson,

Viet Nam was among the earliest States Parties to sign the Chemical Weapons Convention in 1993 and ratified it in 1998. Since then, together with other States Parties, we have consistently demonstrated our strong commitment to implementing the Convention. In 2025, Viet Nam has incorporated its relevant obligations under the CWC into domestic law through the new Law on Chemicals. This Law classifies chemicals controlled under the Convention as “chemicals subject to special control” and “prohibited chemicals”, and subjects them to strict regulation across their entire life cycle. It also clearly reaffirms the obligation to comply with international treaties and establishes a specialized chemicals database, providing a solid legal basis for transparent management and more accurate reporting to the OPCW. Through these efforts, Viet Nam continues to underscore its steadfast commitment to contribution to peace, security and stability at both regional and global levels.

Mr. Chairperson,

Viet Nam highly appreciates the tireless efforts of the Technical Secretariat and the States Parties in implementing the Convention. We recognize that the path towards the full implementation of the CWC remains challenging. However, Viet Nam firmly believes that, with strong political will, constructive dialogue and sincere cooperation, the challenges we face today can be transformed into opportunities to further consolidate the regime on non-proliferation and disarmament of chemical weapons.

In this spirit, Viet Nam looks forward to continued support and technical cooperation from the OPCW and all partners, and stands ready to share its own experience and contribute actively to common initiatives aimed at enhancing the implementation capacity of the Convention, as well as developing national chemical industries in a safe, secure and peaceful manner.

Finally, we request that this Statement be circulated as an official document of the Conference and posted on website of the OPCW.

I thank you, Madam Chairperson.