



ALGERIA

**Statement by H.E. Ambassador Salima Abdelhak
Permanent Representative of the People's Democratic Republic of
Algeria to the OPCW
on Agenda Item (08) - General debate**

**30th session of Conference of the States Parties to the Convention
on Chemical Weapons CSP- 30**

24-28 November 2025 – The Hague

Mr Chairperson,

Mr Director-General,

Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

First, I would like to congratulate H.E. Ambassador Agustín Vásquez Gómez, Permanent Representative of El Salvador for his election to the Chairmanship of the 30th session of the conference of states parties to the convention for the prohibition of chemical weapons. We are confident that he will guide our deliberations to successful outcomes with his valuable experience and capable leadership. He can count on the support of my delegation. I would also like to convey our congratulations and sincere appreciation for the commendable work carried out by his predecessor, Ambassador Almir Šahović of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I wish also to extend my gratitude to the Director-General, Ambassador Fernando Arias, for his reports and his comprehensive opening statement and commend his commitment as well as the Deputy Director general, Ambassador Odette Melono and the Technical Secretariat dedication in advancing and optimizing the implementation of the CWC.

The Algerian delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf the NAM Member States, Parties to the Convention and China and the Africa Group and would like to add its national remarks.

Mr. Chairperson,

Algeria commends the work accomplished by the OPCW throughout 2025, as well as the resilience it demonstrated during a year in which the number of its sessions nearly doubled. Our Organisation operated under an intense and demanding agenda, further complicated by sensitive tensions in various regions of the world, which necessitated the convening of three special sessions of the Executive Council. Nevertheless, it succeeded in achieving consensual and positive outcomes, thanks to the constructive engagement of EC members, who approached discussions in a spirit of genuine dialogue and cooperation, and with a clear awareness of the importance of our shared priorities for the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

This collective commitment enabled the Council to take unanimous decisions on several important matters, including the adoption of its biennial Programme and Budget, the nomination of the next Director-General, and continued work on the Syria file during its regular session. It also allowed the Council to address, in special sessions, urgent issues related to the threat or possible re-emergence of chemical weapons. These efforts demonstrated the readiness of the Organisation to act swiftly when circumstances require, reaffirming the OPCW's role as a guardian of the Convention and as a key instrument for preventing and eliminating any threats related to the use of chemical weapons.

Mr Chairperson,

My delegation notes with appreciation that the organization continued to devote, quite rightly, its full attention to countering chemical terrorism, notably through the Working Group on Terrorism. We commend the forward-looking approach of the Working Group in addressing the evolving threats posed by the misuse of technological developments, including AI-operated drones carrying chemical weapons, agents. We also value the briefings provided by the Technical Secretariat on this matter, as they help States Parties better understand the challenges we collectively face and identify appropriate responses.

We are fully aware that artificial intelligence carries significant potential to enhance the Organization's capabilities, just as it may entail risks that require vigilant assessment and responsible management. In this regard, my delegation commends the OPCW for its proactive approach, particularly its decision to put in place dedicated mechanisms to study the opportunities, challenges, and implications of these emerging technologies. We look forward to the final reports of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) ad hoc groups on the matter, which we trust will provide valuable insights to guide our collective reflections and future actions.

Mr Chairperson,

My delegation, has had the privilege of participating in all relevant discussions and contributing constructively to their outcomes. This engagement reflects Algeria's continued commitment to advancing the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention and supporting the OPCW in its mission towards a world free of chemical weapons. In this spirit, Algeria is working to strengthen the capacities of its national institutions and all relevant stakeholders and remains ready to support the OPCW's efforts, particularly by sharing the experience and expertise gained through, inter alia, the Organisation's International Cooperation and Assistance programmes. We highly value the cooperation with the OPCW within this framework, which has enabled the co-organisation with the technical Secretariat of important regional initiatives in Algeria such as Chemex Africa I in 2023, the specialised trainings on sampling and analysis in 2025 and the upcoming laboratory equipment maintenance to be held in December 2025.

Mr Chairperson,

In conclusion , let me commend the outstanding leadership of the Director General, Ambassador Fernando Arias who strengthened our organisation with relevant mechanisms thanks to and his proactive approach. I am convinced the incoming DG, Ambassador Sabrina Dellafiore matter, will build on these achievements and add her own strength to the endeavour of the organisation in preserving international peace and security. While reiterating our sincere congratulations, I would like to reaffirm the support of Algeria on her future noble missions.

Finally, I would like to kindly request our statement be circulated as an official document of this session and be published on the OPCWs external and public website.

Thank you for your kind attention.