

The 30th Session of the Conference of the States Parties
Agenda Item 9(d): Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use (Syria)

Over the past decade, progress on the elimination of Syria's chemical weapons has been hindered by the lack of cooperation from the Syrian Assad regime. The Republic of Korea therefore welcomes the Syrian government's constructive cooperation with the OPCW and its commitment to destroying all chemical weapons inherited from the former regime. We also commend the TS for its continued and proactive efforts to address this issue.

We thank Qatar for circulating the draft decision on the reinstatement of Syria's rights and privileges. We are pleased to join as a co-sponsor of this decision. We also wish to express our warm welcome to the appointment of H.E. Mohammed Katoub as the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the OPCW.

The Korean government sincerely hopes that all these efforts will lead to clarifying the full extent and scope of Syria's former chemical weapons program, achieving the verified elimination of all chemical weapons in Syria, and enabling appropriate attribution for past uses in accordance with the Convention and relevant decisions.

We welcome the establishment of the Office of Special Mission (OSM) in June 2025, which will serve as an important mechanism to advance the implementation of the Convention. We also welcome the Secretariat's recent re-establishment of a long-term presence of the OPCW Mission in Syria. We encourage the OSM to continue carrying out the work previously undertaken by the Investigation and Identification Team (IIT), the Fact-Finding Mission (FFM), and the Declaration Assessment Team (DAT) with equal priority.

This year, the Korean government provided a voluntary financial contribution of 100,000 euros to the Syria Trust Fund. Once again, we reaffirm our strong support

for the OPCW's activities on the Syrian file, and will continue to contribute to its work going forward.

Thank you. /END/