

INTERVENTION BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO TO THE 30TH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION

THE HAGUE, KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS 24 TO 28 NOVEMBER 2025

Agenda item 26 – Any other business

Mr. Chairperson,

It is the first time that the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago is taking the floor for this Session and so I begin by congratulating you, Ambassador Agustín Vásquez Gómez of the Republic of El Salvador, on your appointment as Chairperson of the 30th Session of the Conference of States Parties.

My delegation thanks Ambassador Almir Šahović of Bosnia and Herzegovina in his former capacity as Chairperson of the 29th Conference of States Parties.

Mr. Chairperson,

During this week's deliberations on the Chemical Weapons Convention, the matter of military deployment in the Caribbean was mentioned. It is in this spirit that the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago makes the following remarks.

Mr. Chairperson,

Trinidad and Tobago believes that peace is a supreme asset and legitimate aspiration of all peoples. While our twin-island Republic has maintained this aspirational goal as originally conceptualised, in the context of the reality faced by Trinidad and Tobago over the past two (2) decades, it is our considered view that Trinidad and Tobago does not currently exist in a peaceful zone.

As far as the Government of Trinidad and Tobago is aware, the military deployment by the Government of the United States of America is based on efforts to destroy terrorist drug cartels and combat transnational organised crime, including drug, human and firearms trafficking. Accordingly, the presumption that this constitutes a threat to peace or has been undertaken with a view to create instability, is unsupported.

In closing, Mr. Chairperson,

Trinidad and Tobago reaffirms its commitment to the objectives of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

We commend Director-General Mr. Fernando Arias for his leadership at the head of this Organisation and congratulate Her Excellency Sabrina Dallafior Matter of Switzerland on her appointment as the next Director General of the OPCW.