

Intervention by Mr. Md Hasan Abdullah Towhid, Charge d’Affaires of Bangladesh Permanent Mission to the OPCW, at the 111th Executive Council Meeting of the OPCW10-13 March 2026, The Hague, Netherlands

Agenda Item 6(f): Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

My delegation thanks the Director-General for his report on the progress in implementing the decision on addressing the threat from chemical weapons use. The work undertaken in support of investigative mechanisms, including the continued development of technical expertise, analytical methodologies, and operational readiness, remains critical for preserving the integrity of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

While we recognize the OPCW’s sustained efforts in addressing the issue of chemical weapons, we encourage the Organisation to build on this momentum by ensuring timely and impartial investigations of alleged use, particularly in conflict-affected regions such as Gaza and the West Bank. Sustained vigilance and credible investigative processes remain essential to upholding the integrity of the Convention and reinforcing global confidence in its implementation.

In this regard, we appreciate the Secretariat’s ongoing work in maintaining and further enhancing investigative capabilities. The readiness of specialised teams, the strengthening of laboratory and analytical capacities, and the refinement of procedures for evidence collection and verification are essential elements in ensuring that allegations of chemical weapons use are addressed in a credible, impartial, and scientifically robust manner.

We also welcome the continued efforts to improve coordination and information management processes within the Secretariat. Such efforts contribute to the effective conduct of investigations and reinforce confidence among States Parties in the technical and objective nature of the Organisation’s work.

Mr. Chair,

The international community has a shared responsibility to ensure that the prohibition against chemical weapons remains strong and credible. Efforts undertaken by the Technical Secretariat to enhance investigative capabilities and support States Parties through capacity-building contribute directly to this objective.

We therefore encourage the Secretariat to continue its work in these areas, in close consultation with States Parties and in accordance with the mandate provided by the Convention and relevant decisions of the policy-making organs.

My delegation reaffirms its support for the impartial and professional work of the Technical Secretariat and remains committed to strengthening international cooperation in addressing the threat posed by the use of chemical weapons.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.