

Statement Czech Republic

at the One Hundred and Eleventh Session of the Executive Council

(The Hague, 10. – 14. March 2026)

AGENDA ITEM [6c]

**– ELIMINATION OF ANY REMNANTS OF THE ASSAD-ERA SYRIAN
CHEMICAL WEAPONS PROGRAMME**

Czechia fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by Cyprus on behalf of the European Union and would like to add some remarks in its national capacity.

We welcome all positive development after the **fall of the Assad regime**, especially the engagement between the OPCW and Syria's transitional government. We hope for many of the victims these are steps which demonstrates commitment of Syria's leadership to close the Syrian dossier once and for all.

Syria's declared chemical weapons stockpiles have been largely destroyed. However, unresolved issues remain. **Significant proliferation risks** will persist until every site is secured and all chemicals, munitions, equipment, and facilities related to chemical weapons are fully documented and verified, followed by their complete destruction or dismantlement. In this context, we hope for a swift clarification of issues related to the 75 destroyed chemical cylinders in the Aleppo region.

Czechia would like to highlight the professional work of the **IIT and its latest report** concerning the attack in Kafr Zeita. It is of paramount importance that full accountability is ensured for all perpetrators, organizers and accomplices responsible for these acts.

We welcome the activities of the **Office of Special Missions** and wish to underline that it is essential for all military actors in Syria to exercise

restraint and avoid any actions that could compromise the OPCW's mission.

To achieve the mission's objectives, it is crucial to ensure **adequate financial support** for the work ahead. We call on all States Parties - particularly those in the region - to make sufficient financial contributions. After all, elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme is our shared concern.