

Statement Czech Republic

at the One Hundred and Eleventh Session of the Executive Council

(The Hague, 10. – 14. March 2026)

AGENDA ITEM [6f]

– ADDRESSING THE THREAT FROM CHEMICAL WEAPONS IN USE

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.

Russia's unjustified and illegal war of aggression against Ukraine has entered its fifth year. Since its start Russia has grown more blatant in its disregard for its international obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention. The findings based on samples that were taken in accordance with international standards and within the OPCW-verified chain of custody clearly confirm the presence of the riot-control agents in multiple locations in Ukraine.

The disturbing and well-documented pattern of chemical weapons use by Russian forces has repeatedly been demonstrated. We are deeply concerned by the **Dutch-German joint statement** not only on the intensification of RCA use by Russia, but also on the use of the choking agent chloropicrin, a World War I – era poisonous gas.

All these substances are prohibited under the Convention, and we call on Russia to address these matters transparently, to cooperate with the OPCW, and to permit an impartial international investigation rather than disseminating disinformation or misrepresenting the facts.

We must counter misleading narratives, keeping a focus on factually accurate information. Czechia call to **move forward from confirmation of use to attribution and accountability**.