

Dominican Republic: Statement by H.E. Ambassador Carlos de la Mota Jiménez, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the OPCW, to be delivered at the 111th Session of the Executive Council, under Agenda Item No. 5, General Debate.

Mr. Chair,

The Dominican Republic wishes, first of all, to reiterate its full support for your leadership of this Executive Council. We recognize the leadership you have exercised to date and appreciate your efforts to guide the work of this body in a spirit of constructive dialogue, balance, and cooperation among States Parties.

We also extend our recognition to the Technical Secretariat and to the Vice-Chairs for their continued work in support of the effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the fulfilment of the mandate of this Organization.

Mr. Chair,

The Dominican Republic reaffirms its firm commitment to the values of multilateralism, international cooperation, and the strengthening of the collective mechanisms that sustain the international chemical disarmament regime.

In a global context marked by growing tensions and uncertainty, it is essential to continue promoting the universality of the Convention, as well as to strengthen cooperation and assistance programmes aimed at developing capacities in countries of the Global South.

In this spirit, we wish to thank the delegations that have referred to the CHEMEX-GRULAC multi-component exercise, and particularly the members of GRULAC, for their contribution to this initiative, which belongs to our entire region.

For the Dominican Republic, the organization of this exercise is a matter of the highest priority. It will be the first multi-component exercise of this nature in our region and first event of this type to incorporate a comprehensive medical response phase, including hospital management components, representing a significant step forward in strengthening our regional capacities.

Fully aware of the responsibility involved in hosting an initiative of this magnitude, our country has devoted significant institutional efforts, technical resources, and inter-institutional coordination to ensure a successful exercise, worthy of the trust placed in the Dominican Republic and in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

We have also actively promoted broad regional participation in order to maximize the inclusiveness and impact of this capacity-building initiative. We are pleased to note that the exercise will also benefit from a strong female representation, while we continue working to further strengthen integration and balanced participation at all levels.

Likewise, efforts are being undertaken to ensure the participation of high-level governmental authorities, as well as the national institutions and ministries whose mandates are directly linked to the implementation of the Convention and to the core objectives of this Organization.

We thank the Technical Secretariat for the support provided in the coordination of this exercise, which will enable the Latin American and Caribbean region to continue advancing in strengthening its capacities to prevent and respond to potential chemical incidents or threats.

Mr. Chair,

Initiatives such as CHEMEX-GRULAC highlight the importance of ensuring that regional capacity-building efforts receive the institutional support, visibility, and engagement that fully reflect the collective nature of our Organization.

Support for such initiatives not only strengthens the preparedness of States Parties, but also reaffirms the value of the joint work between the Technical Secretariat and Member States in advancing the objectives of the Convention.

Investing in training and capacity-building to prepare our regions—and in particular Latin America and the Caribbean—to prevent and respond to chemical incidents or threats represents a concrete contribution to the implementation of the Organization's mandate and to strengthening international cooperation in the field of disarmament.

In that same spirit, we wish to express from the outset our support for the Director General elect, Sabrina Dallafior Matter, and trust that during her tenure an inclusive and balanced approach will continue to be consolidated, one that responds to the needs of all States Parties.

Finally, we wish to express our special appreciation to the European Union, Canada, and Spain for their generous voluntary contributions, which have been indispensable for the realization of this exercise, as well as for the invaluable support provided to our delegation in coordinating this important regional initiative.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.