

MALAYSIA: STATEMENT BY H.E. DATO' ROSELI ABDUL, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE OPCW AT THE 111TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNDER AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – GENERAL DEBATE

Mr. Chairperson,
Director-General Ambassador Arias,
Distinguished delegates,

My delegation aligns with the statement delivered by Uganda on behalf of the NAM States Parties and China. In addition, I wish to share a few remarks in my national capacity.

Mr. Chair,

2. Capacity building is where commitment to the Convention is put into practice. We are pleased to announce that Malaysia will host a *Training Course for States Parties in South-East Asia on Fulfilling Declarations and Inspection Obligations under Article VI of the Chemical Weapons Convention*, from 22 to 24 April 2026. We note with appreciation the reference made to this course by the facilitator for Article VII-related issues this morning, and look forward to welcoming participants from across the sub-region. The course will also serve as a platform for fostering regional collaboration in Convention implementation.

Mr. Chair,

3. We thank the Director-General for his opening statement and for his reports on the Syrian chemical weapons programme. We also take note of the national papers submitted by the Syrian Arab Republic. My delegation notes the steps taken by the Syrian authorities, including the recent handover of documentation to the Secretariat, as well as the facilitation extended to the Secretariat's deployment and field visits. We look forward to continued cooperation between the Syrian Arab Republic and the Secretariat toward fulfilling Syria's obligations under the Convention and relevant Council decisions.

4. On abandoned chemical weapons in China, we take note of the work undertaken within the agreed framework for their destruction and look forward to continued advances toward full and verified elimination with Technical Secretariat support.

5. On emerging technologies, we note the issuance of the end-of-mandate report of the Scientific Advisory Board's Temporary Working Group on Artificial Intelligence (document SAB/REP/1/26). The report identifies both opportunities and risks that AI presents for the implementation of the Convention and puts forward recommendations across five areas: continued monitoring, outreach and engagement, verification activities, organisational readiness and training, and capacity building. We look forward to engaging substantively with fellow States Parties and the Secretariat on the report's findings and recommendations.

Mr. Chair,

6. As this session marks Malaysia's final participation as a member of the Executive Council, we extend our appreciation to Director-General Arias, the Technical Secretariat, and fellow Member States for their cooperation and support during our tenure on the Council. We wish the incoming members from the Asia Group, namely, Indonesia, Iran, Pakistan and Qatar, every success. Our commitment to this Council's work continues, and we look forward to remaining engaged as a State Party.

Thank you.