



**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR I GUSTI AGUNG WESAKA PUJA  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA  
TO THE ORGANIZATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS  
AT THE TWENTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE  
OF THE STATES PARTIES**

***Mr. Chairman/Madame Chair,***

At the outset, let me take this opportunity to join other delegations in congratulating on your election as the Chairperson of the 21<sup>st</sup> session of Conference of States Parties. I am confident that under your able leadership, this session will attain its objectives.

Allow me also to convey my delegation's highest appreciation to Director-General, Ambassador Ahmet Uzumcu, and distinguished members of his bureau in the Technical Secretariat for their continued devotion to maintain the good conduct of this Conference.

My delegation also wishes to associate itself with the statement made by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China.

***Mr. Chairman/Madame Chair,***

The current States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention represent about 98% of the world's population, and about the same percentage of the worldwide chemical industry. The near-universality of the Convention, as well as its robust and well-established verification mechanism, ranks this Convention as the most successful multilateral and universal instrument in disarmament and non-proliferation fora.

Near-universality, however, is not enough. The menace of chemical weapons will continue to linger as long as there are States remaining outside the Convention.

The alleged use of chemical weapons in Syria recently showed us that both the risk of proliferation of chemical weapons as well as misuses of toxic chemicals as weapons, remains undoubtedly real. In consequence, all States Parties and the OPCW, are

therefore called upon to push forward towards the total elimination and prohibition of chemical weapons. As for the few States remaining outside the Convention, this is the high time to accede to the Convention without further delay and preconditions. Universality of the Convention, and full compliance by State Parties, are crucial to achieve a world without chemical weapons.

***Mr. Chairman/Madame Chair,***

While acknowledging the progress made on the unilateral-destruction of chemical weapons by possessor States Parties, Indonesia views that the destruction of the remaining chemical weapons should continue in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and its Annex on Implementation and Verification.

Due to the fact that the extension of deadlines for the destruction of chemical weapons by possessor States has been quite well behind us, it is therefore only natural to urge the possessor States' to renew and to reaffirm their commitment, and to take necessary steps to expedite the destruction process as soon as possible, without further delay.

Indonesia welcomes the continued deliberations on Syria, and progresses which have been made in the dismantlement of its chemical weapons production facilities. Indonesia however, notes there is still room for improvements, as stated in the Declaration Assessment Team (DAT) reports. In this regard, Indonesia encourages both the Syrian Arab Republic and the OPCW to continue the consultation, with a view to achieve for a constructive solution based on the spirit of trust and cooperation.

Indonesia also takes note of reports by the Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) and supports the continuance of the Mission to studying all available information relating to the use of chemical weapons in the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic.

With the adoption of the UNSC Resolution 2319 (2016), Indonesia welcomes the extension of the OPCW-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism (JIM)'s mandate to further investigate the use of chemical weapons in Syria in an objective and transparent manner.

We are deeply concerned with the finding contained in the recent JIM reports and would like to reiterate our position that the use of chemical weapons anywhere, by anybody, under any circumstances is unjustifiable. We call on all relevant parties to extend their

fullest cooperation, and emphasize the use of diplomacy and dialogue to find a peaceful and durable solution.

***Mr. Chairman/Madame Chair,***

Indonesia views that international cooperation and assistance constitute the most important elements among the pillars of the Convention. They are instrumental in facilitating the fullest possible exchange of chemicals, technologies, expertise, scientific, and technological information for the purposes not prohibited under the Convention.

This is essential not only to further sustain cooperation amongst respective Parties, but also to foster economic development. Indonesia believes that amid the increasing security challenges and the need of stronger implementation of the Convention, the development of economic and technological activities should not be hampered.

In light of that, we commend the efforts of States Parties and the OPCW to enhance their engagements with chemical industries for a sustained promotion of chemical trade and strengthening the mechanism for consultation and cooperation. The collaboration with chemical industries is indispensable, not only to share best practices in technology, but also to cope with new challenges in chemical security, either those involving the use of chemical toxin substances, or those aimed at chemical industrial facilities.

As part of Indonesia's acknowledgement of the importance of this provision, Indonesia continues to actively liaise with the Technical Secretariat as well as many other State Parties through training programs, wherein expertise and best practices have been shared. Valuable and practical lessons were also shared by Indonesia's representative in the regional advanced course and field exercise on assistance and emergency response to chemical incidents held Indonesia in Jakarta on 4 – 8 April 2016.

This year, for the first time, Indonesia took part in the Associate Program not as participant, but as the host for participants of the Program to gain practical experience through industrial fellowship at Chandra Asri Petrochemical. Together with the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW, we are now considering to hold a workshop on assistance and protection against chemical weapons in 2017.

On the Draft Program and Budget of the OPCW 2017, my delegation values the work done by the Technical Secretariat and facilitators in order to achieve a balanced budget

among the different programs of the OPCW. It is worth mentioning that the budget for 2017 consists of a light decrease compared to last year's budget without affecting the overall work of the organization, and which takes into account the economic realities that State Parties are currently facing. Our delegation wishes to highlight the importance of international cooperation and assistance as well as assistance and protection against chemical weapons, which have been reflected in the draft aforementioned Program and Budget.

***Mr. Chairman/Madame Chair***

On this occasion, I would like to convey to you that Indonesia wishes to join the Executive Council 2018-2020. In that regard, we seek support from all states parties in our candidature.

To conclude, ***Mr. Chairman/Madame Chair***, I would like to reiterate Indonesia's readiness to fully cooperate with all other States Parties and the Technical Secretariat to address the challenges we have currently been facing in our endeavors to eliminate chemical weapons.

In closing, I respectfully request that this statement be incorporated as an official document of the Conference.

I thank you.

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