

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AT THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES

Under agenda item 17 «Fostering of international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities»

The Russian Federation, together with the overwhelming majority of States Parties, advocates for the effective and non-discriminatory implementation of the provisions of article XI of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), which provides for fostering of international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention and the removal of barriers to the economic and technological development of countries.

Russia actively cooperates with a number of countries in the field of peaceful chemistry, chemical non-proliferation, and export control, sharing its experience and knowledge. We realize that in order to carry out activities for purposes not prohibited under the CWC, not only open access to knowledge, materials, and technologies is necessary, but also resources.

Many countries spend significant funds on servicing their debt obligations. Russia is a leader in writing off the external debt of African countries. As of 2024, this amount reached \$23 billion. We are implementing a refinancing programme under the “debt-for-development” scheme.

One of the reasons for the continuing and even widening gap in access to the benefits of the chemical industry has been the active use of unilateral extraterritorial economic coercive measures by some States Parties against other States Parties to the CWC. In doing so, in violation of Article XI of the Convention, countries of the “Collective West” refer, in particular, to the provisions of multilateral export control regimes.

Such practice is contrary to the UN Charter and contradicts the principles of the UN Security Council’s sanctions mechanism, which is measured, targeted and limited in duration.

Illegal restrictions prevent conscientious States Parties from fulfilling their obligations under the Convention, in particular, the uninterrupted payment of assessed national contributions. This undermines the effectiveness of our Organization.

The purpose of unilateral sanctions was outlined back in the mid-1960s by one of the ideologists of the Western world. I quote: “Hunger, despair, and the overthrow of the government”. Here are some statistics. According to a study by “Lancet Global Health”, the data from which was published in Al Jazeera on September 5, 2025, there are currently about 60 countries under Western sanctions. The vast majority of them are developing countries. According to the same data, between 1970 and 2021, approximately 38 million people died as a result of sanctions. Therefore, statements about export control mechanisms are just a smokescreen. Thus, with the help of neocolonial economic methods, some States Parties to the CWC seek to achieve financial, economic, technological, and political superiority within the OPCW in the field of peaceful chemistry.

To paint the full picture, I will give an example from the 19th package of sanctions imposed on Russia, of which the European Union is so proud. In it, the European civilizers couldn’t forget the youngest Russians. Toys, toy cars, doll strollers, and even the dolls themselves were banned.

We call for statements in support of efforts to implement Article XI of the CWC to be backed up by real action.

We request that this statement be circulated as an official document of the thirtieth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the CWC, posted on the Catalyst network and on the Organization’s website.