

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
AT THE 30TH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES
PARTIES TO THE CWC IN EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT OF REPLY**

Under agenda item 8 “General debate”

Mr. Chairperson,

Western countries continue to escalate international tensions. This is evidenced, in particular, by the permission given to the Kiev regime to launch American and British missiles deep into Russia, and talks about the transfer of Tomahawk strategic missiles. This is happening against the backdrop of ongoing attacks on the Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Plant and the resumption of strikes by the armed forces of Ukraine on chemical industry facilities on Russian territory. Ukrainian armed formations continue to systematically use chemical weapons, including against the civilian population.

We reject the allegations about our “meaningless responses” to “concerned” countries. At the 103rd and 104th Sessions of the Executive Council, the 28th Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the CWC, as well as in the Note Verbale №38 of the Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation to the OPCW (document EC-14 NAT.7 dated 12 October 2023) the Russian Federation provided comprehensive explanations regarding their requests. It’s just because of their political attitudes, they are unwilling and unable to objectively accept the explanations provided.

The countries of the “collective West” have disregarded the principle of consensus and consideration of the interests of all member states, striving for complete domination in the Organization. To achieve this goal, they are attempting to discredit and isolate states that act from a position of sovereignty, defend the technical nature of the OPCW, and exercise their fundamental right to democratic choice. An example of this is the election campaign carried out, among others, by

states that are not members of the Eastern European regional group. It was not based on the contribution that candidates could make to the work of the Organization. The emphasis was on denigrating Russia.

As for their track record, the so-called champions of a rules-based world order engage in the killing of civilians abroad, including political and scientific figures. Numerous cases of torture have been proven. There is no mention at the OPCW of plans to take responsibility for the elimination of chemical weapons abandoned in various regions of the world and for the elimination of the consequences of the use of highly toxic chemicals. Nor do they respond adequately to requests from the Russian Federation under Article IX of the CWC. There are no explanations about US-patented munitions equipped with toxic substances such as sarin, soman, tabun or “Novichok”. The question of how samples of “Novichok” ended up in the British laboratory at Porton Down remains unanswered, as was discussed by Boris Johnson, the UK Foreign Secretary at the time, in an interview with “Deutsche Welle” on 20 March 2018.

There is not enough time to discuss these issues within the OPCW. Is it because the countries of the collective West feel like taking on the role of Pompeia Sulla, Caesar’s wife, who must be above suspicion?

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.