STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF TÜRKİYE
TO THE OPCW AT THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE
OF THE STATES PARTIES

Agenda Item 21 – Emerging technologies

Türkiye aligns itself with the statement of the European Union.

Mr. Chair,

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly reshaping the landscape of science, technology, and security, with profound implications for the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Advances in deep learning, generative models, and automated chemical synthesis are transforming chemistry at a pace that challenges long-standing assumptions underlying our verification regime.

These developments make it increasingly important for the OPCW to anticipate risks and harness opportunities so that AI strengthens—rather than undermines—the object and purpose of the Convention. And we commend the Secretariat for its efforts to this end, including the establishment of the Scientific Advisory Board's Temporary Working Group on AI. Türkiye stands ready to contribute to these efforts.

Additionally, AI significantly enhances the threat landscape. There is increasing concern over the misuse of UAVs—drones—by non-State actors for chemical terrorism.

In this respect, improving the situation in Syria is particularly important where there is complex environment surrounding chemical weapons remnants, and the persistent risk that such materials could be exploited by non-State actors, including terrorist organizations.

The evolving intersection of AI, drone technology and chemical terrorism demands continued vigilance, coordinated action, and the collective commitment of all States Parties.