

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

STATEMENT AT THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES AGENDA ITEM 8 – SUDAN

Mr. Chairperson, Director-General, Distinguished Delegates,

The Chemical Weapons Convention, and this 30th Conference of the States Parties, represents our solemn commitment to ensure that chemical weapons are eradicated from the face of the earth. It is a commitment each State Party made to never, under any circumstances, develop, produce, acquire, stockpile, or use chemical weapons.

Yet, in May of this year, the United States announced its determination that the Government of Sudan used chemical weapons in 2024. We made this determination after rigorous analysis. Let me be unequivocal: the use of chemical weapons is unacceptable, and Sudan's actions have been in violation of the Convention.

After making this determination, we imposed sanctions on Sudan in June. These sanctions are not symbolic gestures; they are the first step

in holding Sudan accountable for its actions. Accountability is not optional; it is the cornerstone of this Convention's credibility.

Despite our continued engagement with its government, we remain concerned about the potential for further use of chemical weapons and other unjustifiable acts of violence in Sudan. Recent reports in international media have also alleged the use of industrial chlorine gas as a weapon in Sudan in 2024.

We note Sudan's stated commitment to investigate this situation and recognize the efforts of its National Technical Committee. But stated commitments are not sufficient. The Government of Sudan must immediately acknowledge its violations, cease any further use of chemical weapons, and fully cooperate with the OPCW to address these violations. Sudan must demonstrate genuine leadership and take concrete steps to come back into compliance with the Convention. Anything less is a betrayal of the principles we stand for as States Parties.

President Trump has no tolerance for the horrific actions by all parties that include obstructing the delivery of food to starving civilians, impeding humanitarian workers, and committing gross violence against civilians. The ongoing conflict in Sudan has created a humanitarian catastrophe of staggering proportions, and the use of chemical weapons only deepens the crisis.

When a state's leaders and institutions violate their obligations—like their obligations under the CWC—we must question their willingness to uphold commitments and find solutions that can save lives and bring

peace. If the leaders in Sudan want to be treated like they have legitimacy, they must act legitimately. They must uphold their commitments, cease hostilities, declare and dismantle their chemical weapons program under OPCW verification, and allow full, safe, and unimpeded humanitarian access.

We urge all parties to end the fighting, allow the free flow of humanitarian aid, and pursue a political solution.

The United States stands ready to support Sudan in its efforts to return to compliance. This support is contingent on Sudan taking genuine, verifiable steps to fulfill its obligations under the Convention, just as we need and expect to see Sudan take important, meaningful steps on all fronts to alleviate the suffering of the Sudanese people, save lives, and contribute to international security and stability by ending the conflict.

We urge Sudan to seize this opportunity and act now to demonstrate leadership, restore its credibility, and reaffirm its commitment to a world free of chemical weapons. Anything less is a disservice to the people of Sudan and the global community.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.