

**Algeria Statement at the 108th session of the
Executive Council
under agenda item 7: Countering chemical terrorism**

Mr. Chairperson

Chemical terrorism remains as one of the main threats that should continue to attract the OPCW interest and full attention. This threat is aggravated in an instable environment considering the number of zones of tension and conflicts around the world.

In addition, the possible use of chemical weapons by terrorist groups and non-state actors can be facilitated by the rapid development in emerging technologies and Artificial intelligence that may hold the risks of facilitating the development, deployment and the use of existing and new chemical weapons.

Indeed, the threat of re-emergence remains real as Chemical Weapons can at any time fall in wrong hands beyond any control.

Considering these facts, countering chemical terrorism should continue to be dealt through in-depth discussions within our Organisation.

In this regard, we commend the efforts made by the OPCW in fighting chemical terrorism as highlighted in the recent note by the TS on the status of the OPCW's contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts.

We renew our appreciation to the work done under OEWG on Terrorism under the chairmanship of the Ambassador of South Africa.

The group constitutes a valuable platform to discuss the matter and to explore the appropriate ways to tackle this problem efficiently and collectively.

We highlight the fruitful discussions at the last meeting of this group which focused on the role of cooperation with other international organisations and on some of OPCW activities such as the large scale event "Chemex Africa 2023", and their role in reinforcing responsive capacities to face chemical incidents including chemical terrorist attacks.

We note with appreciation the interest of States Parties and the Technical Secretariat to organize "Chemex Africa II", in 2025 and Chemex GRULAC. Algeria reiterates its full readiness to contribute in these major events by sharing its experience from its 1st edition and to build on the main achievements of this successful event.

We highlight also the Table-Top exercise on chemical terrorism organized, in 2023 to which Algeria has contributed as well as the action plan which highlights its conclusions and take-away. My delegation stands committed to contribute in further discussions on the matter. Thank you