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سفارة الجزائر بلأهاي

Algeria

Statement by H.E Salima Abdelhak, Permanent Representative of Algeria to OPCW at the 110 session of the OPCW Executive Council

General Debate

The Hague, 07- 10 October 2025

**Mr Chairperson,
Mr Director-General,
Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,**

First of all, I would like to welcome you M. Chairperson and express my greeting to all the participants each according to his/her honorable capacity. My delegation, aligns itself with the statements of the Africa and NAM Groups, and has the honor to take the floor on its national capacity.

Mr Chairperson,

My delegation reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the Chemical Weapons Convention, which remains one of the cornerstones of multilateral disarmament and a concrete instrument of collective security.

The OPCW and its governing bodies are increasingly called upon to address complex and urgent issues. This is not only because such matters fall within its mandate, but more importantly, because our Organization, plays a vital role in preserving peace and security worldwide and upholds the principles of international law and multilateralism.

We could witness that, in late July, as the Executive council convened three times including two special meetings, to deliberate on issues and cases that emerged from risks posed within today's geopolitics characterized by regional instability, tensions and armed conflicts in several parts of the world. These realities pose serious risks of the re-emergence and proliferation of chemical weapons, which can now take advantage of the rapid advances in science and technology.

While we must remain vigilant, as these dynamics represent clear threats to international peace and security, we must also bring the urgent Syria dossier to a conclusion by mobilizing our efforts and building on the momentum created by the renewed cooperation between Syria and the Secretariat, so as to achieve a prompt and comprehensive closure.

It goes without saying that the Technical Secretariat should continue to oversee all situations where the use or risk of use of chemical weapons is reported, including in Gaza.

Mr. Chairperson

Key priorities remain, including achieving the universality of the Convention and strengthening international cooperation. It is imperative to redouble our efforts to ensure that all actors are equally bound by the provisions of the CWC, and that observer States recognize the obligation—carried by their status—to respect both the spirit and the letter of the Convention. International cooperation is now more crucial than ever, not only among States Parties in implementing the Convention's provisions, but also between the OPCW and other organizations working in the fields of security and science. Such collaboration is essential to confront new-generation threats, including the use of chemical weapons by non-State actors and the misuse of emerging technologies to the detriment of peace and security.

Mr. Chairperson,

These are only some of the priorities to be tackled but our foremost task is the appointment of the next Director-General of the OPCW, especially in a context of complexity and polarity that characterize our world.

It must be acknowledged that this process has been lengthy, however it has streamlined the number of candidates. The consensus among the EC on a single candidate to be recommended to the CSP is a prerequisite in order to ensure that the next Director-General enjoys the unanimous support of all Member States. We must therefore conduct this process in a spirit of unity, dialogue, and compromise.

What is certain, and of utmost importance for my delegation, is that the next Director-General should carry out his or her responsibilities with the highest standards of competence, impartiality, and integrity, while upholding international law and strengthening multilateral cooperation within the Organization and ensuring diversity within the Organization.