

Statement by the Delegation of the Czech Republic
at the One Hundred and Tenth Session of the Executive Council
(The Hague, 7. – 10. 10. 2025)
under Agenda Item 6(c) – Elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme

Mr Chairperson, Mr Director-General, distinguished delegates,

Czechia fully aligns itself with the EU statement and wishes to make a few remarks in its national capacity.

We thank the DG and the TS for the comprehensive report on the progress in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme. It proves that the OPCW continues to play a vital role in upholding the integrity of the Convention, particularly in complex and sensitive contexts such as Syria.

Czechia welcomes the recent developments and engagement between OPCW and **Syria's** transitional government directed at enhancing cooperation and continuation of the OPCW activities in Syria.

We commend signing of the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities in June and the recent activities related to destruction and verification of any remnants of the former chemical weapons programme, established under the Assad regime, especially the draft decision prepared by the State of Qatar that we were happy to co-sponsor. These are the steps that clearly demonstrate the commitment of the **Syria's** transitional government to close the Syrian dossier once and for all.

We note the meetings conducted by the OSM with Syrian authorities in August and the meetings of IIT and FFM in September, which received information relevant to ongoing investigations and planned future activities.

We highly value the professional work of the TS, which after more than 10 years reveals some parts of the chemical weapons programme that were previously undeclared.

We are concerned about the reports, that an unknown amount of highly toxic chemicals might have been produced under the Assad regime and that its whereabouts are not known.

We also note the difficulties connected to the access to some sites, including due to possible presence of explosives. This issue is very serious and poses significant threat to international peace and security.

We welcome the establishment of the Special Fund for the Syria Mission in the upcoming budget to provide financial resources needed for the task ahead.

Czechia will continue to work with all stakeholders to secure a future free from the threat of chemical warfare in Syria and beyond. After all, elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme is our shared concern.

Thank you.