

Statement by Poland
at the 110th session of the Executive Council
(The Hague, 7 - 10 October 2025)
Agenda item 5: General debate

Mr Chairperson,
Director-General,
Distinguished delegates,

Poland fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by Denmark on behalf of the European Union. At the same time I wish to underline a couple of additional points in my national capacity.

I would like to reiterate Poland's full and unwavering support to Ukraine's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders. It is already more than three and a half years that Ukraine has been defending itself bravely against Russia's brutal, unprovoked, full-scale invasion. The war is a direct threat to Ukraine, but also to European security and the rule based international order.

Before our very eyes, neo-imperial and neo-colonial Russia is attempting to destroy the architecture of international security, violating international law, reinforcing divisions, and striving to revive the Concert of Powers.

Recently the Russian Federation has decided to take yet another step on its path of flagrant violation of the international law and the Charter of the United Nations by numerous breaches of airspace of EU/NATO countries and escalating its hybrid war against the West. Russia's reckless actions represent a destabilizing escalation that brings the entire region closer to conflict than at any time in recent years.

Poland reiterates its call on the Russian Federation to cease, without delay, its war of aggression against Ukraine, to desist from further provocations, and to abide by the obligations enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations as well as the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Since the beginning of Russia's full scale aggression, the Ukrainian authorities have documented almost 11 000 instances of use of ammunition containing toxic chemicals, resulting in nearly 3000 cases of servicemen suffering from symptoms of chemical injuries. The presence of Riot Control Agents on the battlefields has been corroborated by the findings of the OPCW Technical Assistance Visits to Ukraine. It is clear that Russia uses RCAs as a method of warfare on the frontlines in Ukraine, violating the CWC. This must be urgently addressed. That is why Poland took the decision to contribute 50 000 EUR in support of OPCW's ongoing work in Ukraine.

Poland would like to see Syria's return to full compliance with the Convention as soon as possible. Therefore, we welcome the reestablishment of cooperation between the new Syrian authorities and the OPCW and support all efforts to close the so called Syrian chapter once and for good. We also welcome the Secretariat's information about the latest steps in this regards, including further visits. It is necessary to verify the extent of Syria's chemical weapons programme, eliminate its remnants, counter proliferation and hold the perpetrators to account.

Poland supports the draft OPCW budget for 2026-2027. The current proposal is the result of a lengthy facilitation process involving difficult negotiations. It is always a challenge to apply a Zero Nominal Growth approach and at the same time find additional resources from assessed contributions. We commend the Technical Secretariat for their creativity in finding solutions that meet the expectations of States Parties while safeguarding the core programmatic activities. We hope that once again considerable efforts to build consensus around

the final proposal will result in adopting the respective draft decision without voting.

Last but not least, I would like to draw the attention of States Parties to Poland's annual UNGA resolution on the implementation of the CWC. In the coming weeks once again Poland is going to propose an updated version of the text for the consideration of the First Committee of the UN and then the General Assembly. This year's draft will try to address the most important developments that have taken place in the area of non-proliferation of chemical weapons since its last adoption, including the new situation in Syria and the findings of OPCW Technical Assistance Visits requested by Ukraine. Last year our resolution was broadly supported. We count on States Parties' solid support this year too.

I kindly ask to consider this statement as an official document of this session and post it on the OPCW external server and public website.

Thank you for your attention.