



**STATEMENT BY H.E. JURAJ PODHORSKÝ,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
TO THE OPCW,
AT THE 110th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
(The Hague, 7 to 10 October 2025)**

Agenda item 6 (f) – Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use

Mr. Chair,

Slovakia aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union.

In my national capacity, I wish to make some additional comments and observations.

Slovakia is deeply concerned by the reported systematic use of riot control agents as a method of warfare by Russia in its continued war of aggression against Ukraine which is in direct contravention of the explicit prohibition contained in Art. I para 5 of the CWC. There have also been numerous reports on the use of the choking agent chloropicrin by Russian armed forces. Moreover, the use of CS in the zone of combat in Ukraine has repeatedly been confirmed by the OPCW in its reports of 18 November 2024, 14 February 2025 and 20 June 2025.

Against this backdrop, it is necessary for the Russian Federation to provide credible explanations and clarifications, either in response to formal requests by a group of States Parties under Art. IX para. 2 and para. 3 or in response to expressions of concern from OPCW Members in this room.

Furthermore, we wish to reiterate that there should be no impunity for the perpetrators of chemical weapons use. Therefore, we echo earlier calls expressed by other delegations regarding the timely attribution of these instances of CW use.

Considering the situation Ukraine finds itself in, most notably the growing number of uses of ammunition containing toxic chemicals, as documented by

Ukrainian authorities, the strengthening of protection and detection capabilities of Ukraine is imperative. Slovakia supports the provision of assistance to Ukraine from the dedicated trust fund set up under Art. X CWC which it has also contributed to. Slovakia has further facilitated, as a transit State Party, the provision of assistance to Ukraine within the framework of Technical Assistance Visits. We further reiterate our readiness to support any future TAVs to Ukraine

Mr. Chair,

We express our continued deep concern over the use of nerve agent of the “Novichok” group against individuals, both on the territory of the Russian Federation and outside of it. Even though several years have passed since the poisoning of Sergei and Yulia Skripal and of Alexei Navalny, respectively, no credible explanations have been provided by Russia so far.

I wish to kindly request the issuance of this statement as an official-series document of the session, as well as its posting on the OPCW public website.

I thank you.