



State of Palestine
Permanent Mission of the State of Palestine
to the International Organizations based in The
Hague

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR AMMAR HIJAZI, PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF PALESTINE TO THE OPCW, AT THE 110th
SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNDER AGENDA ITEM 5 – GENERAL
DEBATE**

The Hague, 7-10 October 2025

Chairperson,

Excellences and Distinguished delegates,

The State of Palestine aligns itself with the statement delivered by the Republic of Uganda, in its capacity as Chair of the Non-Aligned Movement and China, States Parties to the CWC. The State of Palestine reiterates once more commitment to achieving a general and complete disarmament of all chemical weapons and weapons of mass destruction as well as the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention.

Chairperson, Distinguished Delegates,

We meet today as the genocidal aggression conducted by Israel, the illegal occupying power, enters its third year. Despite the positive momentum now building towards ending this atrocious war, we must not lose sight of the violations that must be addressed. As we reported earlier, Israel used white phosphorus against civilians illegally, causing untold immediate and long-term harm to civilians and the environment.

Meanwhile, in the West Bank, Israel has employed Riot Control Agents as a method of warfare, effectively turning them into chemical weapons — a constant transgression that we have warned of in previous communications. They are often deployed in the course of Israel's armed invasions and attacks on densely populated civilian areas and refugee camps. The use of RCAs, including inside homes, schools, and medical facilities, causes widespread harm and is in violation of international law, including IHL, the Chemical Weapons Convention, and other related treaties.

In this regard, Palestine renews its urgent call on the Council and the Technical Secretariat to fulfill their mandate and to enact measures under the Convention, as necessary, to monitor and investigate incidents where clear violations of the Convention — such as those we have just outlined — have taken place. A technical assistance visit is urgently required and consistent with Article VIII, paragraph 38(e), of the Chemical Weapons Convention. Continued delay is simply without cause. This urgent matter cannot wait until the capacity gap is bridged. Furthermore, we must stress here that cooperation, training, and technical assistance provided by the Organisation, in spite of their importance, cannot replace the core functions of the Organisation — including its constant vigilance against the use of chemical weapons, preventing their use, and responding if and when chemical weapons are used, as well as supporting victims of chemical weapons.

We believe that the request of several delegations for condemning and ending Israel's targeting of Lebanon and Syria, particularly its targeting of sensitive sites related to the work of the OPCW, is justified and must be given due attention.

Chairperson,

International organizations like the OPCW have a critical responsibility to ensure the universal application of international law, including implementing the provisions of the CWC — no exceptions and no excuses. Compliance with international legal frameworks is not optional, and we have a responsibility to ensure that it is not selective. Normalizing impunity is a threat humanity cannot afford to live with.

- We request that this statement be adopted as an official document of this Conference and published on the Organization's public website and Catalyst platform.