



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

STATEMENT AT THE ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM 10 (e)

Thank you, Mr. Chair. The United States supports a zero nominal growth budget that advances the OPCW's core mission in the draft program and budget of the OPCW for 2026-2027.

We would like to make clear our desire to disassociate from the text in this decision urging the Director-General to continue to pay due consideration to gender balance pursuant to the decision of the Conference at its Twenty-Eighth Session entitled "Action Plan on Geographical Representation" and the decision of the Council adopting the deliverables submitted by the Secretariat in this regard.

The United States prioritizes merit-based advancement and does not support organizational practices that promote decision-making based on diversity, equity, or inclusion initiatives, prejudice one sex over another, enforce quotas or sex preferences, or afford privileges to one sex over another. The OPCW must conform to the highest level of merit-based professionalism. Future decisions by the Council that seek to hijack the Organization's work in furtherance of social goals unrelated to its core mission will not earn the support of the United States.