



**H.E. AMBASSADOR NICOLE SHAMPAINÉ
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE OPCW
AT THE ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM 7
OPEN ENDED WORKING GROUP ON TERRORISM**

- In light of certain statements made, I would like to clarify the following:
- The United States did not support recent Israeli strikes. We have engaged diplomatically with Israel and Syria – at the highest levels – both to address the present crisis and facilitate a lasting agreement between two sovereign states.
- President Trump has outlined his clear vision of a prosperous Middle East and a stable Syria at peace with itself and its neighbors. Peace among neighbors, including Israel and Syria is a critical component of this vision.
- We note that consideration of conventional military strikes is not a function of the OPCW.
- The safety and security of OPCW and Syrian personnel and facilities relating to the Assad regime's program are of the utmost importance.
- The preservation of evidence of this program is also critical to the success of this effort as well as that of international accountability endeavors.