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INDONESIA

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
AT THE EIGHTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Thank you for giving me the floor.

On behalf of my Ambassador, I seize this opportunity to congratulate the new Chairperson of the Executive Council, Ambassador Sheikh Mohammed Belal of Bangladesh and wish you a successful tenure. We are confident that under your leadership this session will have successful outcomes.

I would like to thank the Director-General for his statement and commend him and his team for the commitment and efforts they have made in the implementation of the Convention.

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by Ambassador Haifa Aissami Madah of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf of the NAM States Parties to the Convention and China.

Mr Chairperson, Director-General, distinguished delegates,

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the OPCW. The Organisation has witnessed huge progress towards the destruction and elimination of all chemical weapons. Yet, confirmed uses of chemical weapons recently raises new challenges in our continued efforts to achieve our common objective, a world free of chemical weapons.

Indonesia is deeply concerned with the findings of use of chemical weapons in Um-Housh and Khan Shaykhun. It has been our consistent position that the use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere and under any circumstances must be condemned. Those responsible for such atrocities must be held accountable. Therefore, the OPCW and this Council have the sacred responsibility to address this issue and likewise ensure to eliminate and prevent the use of chemical weapons in the future.

Indonesia wishes to reiterate its firm commitment on the achievement of complete disarmament, including the prohibition and elimination of all weapons of mass destruction in line with the Convention. Indonesia, therefore, urges all possessor States to take extra steps to expedite their destruction processes.

Indonesia attaches great importance to the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention. In this regard, we will continue to support the Secretariat's efforts and programmes in the implementation of the Convention, including strengthening the implementation of Article XI on economic and technological activities.



Therefore, we must ensure the fullest possible exchange of chemicals, equipment, scientific and technical information for the peaceful uses of chemistry.

I request that this statement be included as an official document of the Eighty-Fifth Session of the Executive Council.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.

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