

**INDONESIA****STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR MR I. GUSTI AGUNG WESAKA PUJA
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDONESIA TO THE OPCW
AT THE EIGHTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairperson,

Please allow me to convey again my support to you as the Chairperson of the Executive Council. I believe that your able leadership will contribute to the success of this session.

I would like to thank the Director-General, Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü, for his comprehensive report, commend him and his team, and praise other stakeholders for all their tremendous efforts to achieve a world free of chemical weapons.

My delegation associates 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, in congratulating you, as Chairperson, for the smooth conduct of the appointment of the new Director-General.

Indonesia wishes to re-emphasise that the mere assurance for this world to be free from chemical weapons is not only by the further enlargement of membership towards its universality, but also through the full compliance by States Parties to the Convention.

While acknowledging the significant progress made on the destruction of all categories of chemical weapons, namely old chemical weapons, abandoned chemical weapons and chemical weapons stockpiles, necessary measures must be undertaken by all the possessor and related States Parties to strictly comply with the Convention's obligation and relevant decisions of the Organisation.

Regarding the use of chemical weapons or chemicals as a weapon in Syria, Indonesia fully supports the continued work of the Fact-Finding Mission as mandated.

Indonesia remains fully committed in supporting programs and activities that make practical and valuable contributions to the work of the Organisation, including hosting a number of training programmes wherein expertise and best practices were shared.

This year, a workshop on Needs Assessment and Best Practices on Integrated Chemical Management was successfully held in Jakarta from 20 to 22 March 2017 and was attended by around 40 representatives from various related stakeholders from around the world.

A Regional Table Top Exercise on Article X (Assistance and Protection) was also successfully organised in Bali from 23 to 25 May 2017 wherein around 30 professionals and experts from 16 States Parties from Asia Pacific shared lessons learned and best practices to



improve the capacity in the emergency response against possible weapons attack and disasters of dangerous chemicals leakage.

We are also pleased that practical experiences and lessons learned about assistance and protection have also been shared by Indonesia's chemical industries under the Associate Programme in September.

We believe that organising the aforementioned programmes or activities also signifies the priority we attach to the provisions of the Convention on international cooperation and assistance as well as peaceful uses of chemistry.

Indonesia will always continue to strengthen cooperation with the Organisation.

In this regard, Indonesia is grateful for the visit of the Director-General to Jakarta on 27 and 28 July 2017. During the visit, strengthened collaborative programmes have been agreed, in particular, in the field of chemical weapons prohibition, training programmes and capacity building.

It is a privilege for Indonesia to be perceived as a bridge builder and facilitator for the meeting between the Director-General, ASEAN Permanent Representatives and its dialogue partners for strengthening cooperation between OPCW and ASEAN, such as in facing the potential challenges of using chemical weapons in the region, capacity building in chemical science and chemical industry development, including the possibility of establishing an "ASEAN Centre CWC Capabilities Hub" in the region.

This year, chemical weapons issues received greater attention from ASEAN countries in the East Asia Summit. The East Asia Summit Leaders are expected to consider a discussion on chemical weapons issues during their meeting in Manila next month.

Indonesia is observing and monitoring very closely the ongoing process of the appointment of the Director-General. We are pleased that the appointment process has been transparent and fair, for it will ensure the broadest support for the new Director-General.

Indonesia wishes to convey its steadfast support to whoever will be appointed as the new Director-General, and sincerely hopes that the success and progress made under the current Director-General will be sustained.

I would like to request that this statement be published as an official document of the Eighty-Sixth Session of the Executive Council.

Thank you Mr Chairperson.

--- 0 ---