



## **STATEMENT**

**BY**

**H.E. Mr. Samuel Halala Kajella, Director  
General of Institute of Chemicals and  
Construction Inputs Industry Development of  
Ethiopia**

**AT**

**THE TWENTY FOURTH SESSION OF THE  
CONFERENCES OF THE STATE PARTIES TO  
THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CWC).**

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**THE HAGUE**

**Mr. Chairperson,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Allow me, at the outset, to congratulate you on your election as the Chairperson of the Twenty-Fourth Session of the Conference of the States Parties.

My delegation extends its appreciation to the outgoing Chairperson H.E. Mr. Yun-young Lee, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, for his dedication during the Twenty Third Session of the Conference of the States Parties.

Ethiopia associates itself with the statements made on behalf of the African group and that of the Non-Aligned Movement and China. We also take note of the comprehensive statement on the activities of the organization by H.E Fernando Arias, the Director-General of the Organization of the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

**Mr. Chairperson,**

My Country, as a state which has gone through the horrifying attack by Chemical Weapons in the 1930s, strongly condemns the use of Chemical Weapons by either state or non-state actors that constitute a serious violation of international law and a major threat to the international peace and security. Hence, Ethiopia promotes the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention for the realization of its objective and purpose.

More recently, the use of chemical weapons anywhere in the world has become a source of grave concern and we unequivocally condemn such activities. In this respect, My country remains committed and has consistent positions on the

importance of upholding the provisions of the Convention to address the threats of chemical terrorism.

**Mr. Chairperson,**

Ethiopia continues to appreciate the efforts of the OPCW to strengthen cooperation with African States Parties through the Africa Programme. My delegation welcomes the progress achieved and the projects put in place for African countries throughout all four phases of the Programme and looks forward to the continuation of this effort under the fifth phase of the Africa Programme, and underlines the necessity to ensure sustainable finance to this Programme.

As the pioneer party to the convention, Ethiopia designated a National Authority for CWC and has adopted a comprehensive national implementation legislation in 2003. Ever since Ethiopia has been working closely with the OPCW and other states parties to encourage regional efforts related to the convention.

My government adheres to the objectives of CWC to be implemented properly and comprehensively at a national level and has delegated the National Authority as a national focal point to follow up the full implementations of the Convention. The National Authority has adopted implementation measures to guide the process of analysis, prioritization and planning of actions related to national implementation. In this respect, Ethiopia has implemented major provisions of the Convention and has been submitting annual national declarations to the OPCW uninterruptedly.

Moreover, to strengthening national and regional capacities in order to surmount the challenges that hinder optimal implementation of



the Convention, Ethiopia has recently hosted a seminar on chemical safety and security management, and annual regional national authority meeting for member states of the OPCW in Africa, and has been benefited from equipment exchange support from the technical secretariat.

**Mr. Chairperson,**

Allow me, at this juncture, to acknowledge the support and contribution from all stakeholders in our implementation activities. We have established technical cooperation with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and benefited in areas of capacity building programs that improve our implementation status. We believe that a balanced approach between the verification requirement and the capacity building reinforcement, including technology transfer and technical assistance, is essential to the successful implementation of the Convention.

In this regard, I call on the continued support of the Organization and other stakeholders for my country to meet national obligation to CWC in an effective manner.

Finally, **Mr. Chairperson**, I would like to conclude my statement by expressing Ethiopia's strong commitment to continue fulfilling its responsibilities for the full implementations of the Chemical Weapons Convention and ensure peaceful uses of chemistry.

I kindly would like to request that the statement be considered an official document of the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the States Parties and posted on the external server and the public website.

**I thank you.**