English only



Point 6 (c) Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use

## Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine at the 108th session of the Executive Council

## Mr. Chairperson, Director-General,

Ukraine fully associates itself with the statement delivered by H.E. Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Poland to the OPCW Margareta Kassangana on behalf of the European Union.

Ukraine welcomes the visit of the Director-General to Damascus on 8 February 2025, at the invitation of Syria's Foreign Minister. This visit marks an important first step towards the reestablishing a direct working relationship between the OPCW Technical Secretariat and Syria, following over a decade of stagnation and lack of cooperation under Assad regime.

Ukraine acknowledges the positive and productive nature of the discussions between the OPCW and Syria's authorities. We view this engagement as a crucial opportunity for Syria to comply with its obligations under the Convention and for the OPCW to provide the necessary support to eliminate the remnants of Syria's chemical weapons program.

Ukraine believes that this renewed engagement, based on mutual trust and transparency, is essential not only for the future of Syria but also for the wider international community. The OPCW's commitment to supporting Syria in meeting its chemical weapons obligations is a positive development.

We echo the Director-General's call to seize this opportunity to resolve outstanding issues and close the Syrian chemical weapons file. This is a crucial step towards regional stability, long-term compliance with the CWC, and contributing to peace and international security.

I would kindly ask you to consider this statement as an official document of the 108<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive council and post it on the OPCW external server and public website.

## Thank you for your attention.