



CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY!

STATEMENT
by the Deputy Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Slovenia to the UN Ms. Ondina Blokar Drobšč
at the First Committee of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly
New York, October 23, 2019

Mr. Chairman

I wish to begin by aligning myself with the statement delivered by the European. Allow me to contribute a few remarks in my national capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

For Slovenia the proliferation of the use of chemical weapons in recent years is a matter of great concern. This is why we joined the International Partnership against Impunity for the use of Chemical Weapons and appreciate the professional, independent and impartial work of the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) and the Declarations Assessment Team (DAT).

Slovenia strongly supports the implementation of the decision taken at the Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) in June 2018, which led to the establishment of the Investigation and Identification Team (IIT). We believe that the professional and impartial work of the IIT will greatly contribute to identification of those responsible for the use of chemical weapons in Syria.

Slovenia provided a voluntary contribution for the work of the IIT. In order to enable the OPCW to fully perform the tasks related to its mandate in the future, Slovenia also provided a voluntary contribution for the OPCW Centre for Chemistry and Technology.

Finally Mr. Chair, I would like to once again call upon all those States not yet party to the CWC, to join the Convention and contribute to the goal of a world free of chemical weapons.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.