



BRAZIL

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR REGINA MARIA CORDEIRO DUNLOP
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BRAZIL TO THE OPCW
AT THE EIGHTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Madam Chairperson,

As this is my first intervention in the Executive Council (hereinafter “the Council”), allow me to extend to you and all colleagues the assurances of my full commitment and cooperation for the success of this session and of all activities in which I will have the honour of being involved as the Permanent Representative of Brazil.

I also thank the Director-General for his opening statement and for his efforts to carry out the implementation of the Council’s decisions.

One of the most sensitive issues we have been addressing at the Council is the Syrian dossier. Brazil condemns the use of chemical weapons anywhere, by anyone, under any circumstances. In this regard, while recognising the present unfavourable conditions in the field, Brazil calls for additional efforts from the Syrian Arab Republic to fully implement its obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention (hereinafter “the Convention”). We also wish to express our support to the work of the Technical Secretariat throughout this process.

Following reports from the Declarations Assessment Team, the Joint Investigative Mechanism and the Fact-Finding Missions, as well as recent developments in the country, the Council voted last November on a decision that expressed further concern about the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and created new mandates in some areas.

Without prejudice to the substance of this decision, Brazil regrets that the Council could not act in a unified manner, as it has been the case in the past and as it should be in issues of such sensitivity as the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic. We therefore reiterate our expectation that the Council and the Conference of the States Parties will resume taking decisions by consensus. This is the only way towards enhancing our chances to succeed in our ultimate objective, which is to ensure the full compliance of the Convention and accountability for those responsible for the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic. Brazil also regrets that the United Nations Security Council remains unable to take appropriate action regarding the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic.



We would like to express our concern with the worrisome news on the alleged use of VX in Malaysia last month. Brazil fully supports a thorough investigation to clarify the circumstances involving the possible use of a chemical weapon proscribed by the Convention.

At the start of a new year of international cooperation activities, Brazil reaffirms its readiness to play the role of promoter and provider of training and assistance to other countries, as it has been in past years. As part of our efforts in this regard, Brazil has recently established a Regional Centre for Assistance and Protection for States Parties of the Latin American and the Caribbean Region, which will shortly start coordinating cooperation activities.

Brazil will host, in partnership with the OPCW, a Regional Exercise in Assistance and Protection for Member States of the Convention in the GRULAC region in late August, in Rio de Janeiro. In the same vein, the Brazilian National Authority aims at offering four positions in the context of the Associate Programme 2017, in cooperation with the private sector, as in previous editions.

Thank you.

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