



OPCW

Executive Council

Thirty-Third Meeting
27 September and 3 October 2013

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3 October 2013
ENGLISH and Spanish only

CUBA

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR ZELMYS MARÍA DOMÍNGUEZ CORTINA
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA TO THE OPCW
AT THE THIRTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairperson,

Thank you for giving me the floor in order to underline certain aspects of Cuba's position on this subject.

Cuba supports the creation of a zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, including chemical weapons, in the Middle East and, in this context, welcomes the accession of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Chemical Weapons Convention and its willingness to implement it provisionally with immediate effect, even before the entry into force of the Convention for this country.

The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW and the States Parties must make available to the National Authority of the Syrian Arab Republic the necessary resources for the implementation of the Convention, and help it to fulfil the provisions of the Convention and of the decision adopted by the Executive Council in this regard.

We also support the efforts that will allow a political solution to the conflict to be reached, and which respect the sovereignty, independence, and integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic and the self-determination of its people.

I request that this statement be distributed as an official document of this meeting.

Thank you very much.

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