



OPCW

Executive Council

Forty-First Meeting
22 May 2014

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TURKEY

**STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY TO THE OPCW AT THE
FORTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairperson,

Let me first to congratulate you on your appointment as the Chair of the Executive Council. On this occasion, I would like to congratulate the new Vice-Chairs and the new members of the Executive Council as well.

On behalf my country and delegation, I wish you every success in steering the Executive Council sessions at this critical juncture.

I also thank the Director-General for his briefing today.

Turkey has made her position very clear, time and again, on the elimination of chemical weapons in Syria.

As such, let me once again reiterate that we are deeply disappointed of the fact that previously agreed timelines on the removal of the chemical weapons outside Syria have not been met yet. We deem this as a conspicuous breach of this Council's decisions. We expect the completion of removal and destruction process without further delay.

We believe the 12 chemical weapons production facilities should be physically and irreversibly destroyed in compliance with the Convention's requirements.

Moreover, we look forward to the outcomes of the Fact-Finding Mission currently investigating the incidents involving use of chemicals in Syria.

On a final note, we also share the concerns on the need to closely monitor the accuracy and completeness of the declarations made by Syria. In this regard, we expect Syria to fully cooperate with the Technical Secretariat to address this issue.

I would like to request that this statement be circulated as an official document of this session of the Executive Council and be posted on the external server as well as the website.

Thank you.

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