



**OPCW**

**Executive Council**

Forty-Sixth Meeting  
19 November 2014

EC-M-46/NAT.12  
19 November 2014  
ENGLISH only

**NETHERLANDS**

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR JAN-LUCAS VAN HOORN  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NETHERLANDS TO THE OPCW  
AT THE FORTY-SIXTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairman,

My delegation thanks the Director-General for his note and statement on the progress made in the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme. We welcome Ambassador Medeiros as the Special Adviser to the Director-General and wish him success in his important mission.

The Director-General's report illustrates however, that the job is not done. The Syrian Arab Republic has several obligations it still needs to fulfil. One chemical weapon production facility (CWPF) is on the agenda today. Together with the other twelve it remains yet to be destroyed. The briefings are promising, but progress is slow and the month of November, in which the destruction process was set to commence, is nearing its end. This Council must remain vigilant that new deadlines are met and obligations are fulfilled. We therefore expect that this Council will continue to meet at regular intervals.

The Syrian Arab Republic also has to make good on its promise to provide more clarity regarding its declaration. We express our appreciation to the Declaration Assessment Team for its continuing efforts to provide clarity on the remaining doubts about the correctness and completeness of its declaration.

As we have stated on previous occasions, for the Technical Secretariat to be able to perform its tasks in the efficient, effective and professional manner, that we have come to expect, it is essential that it has the staff with the expertise and experience to do so. I wish to thank the delegations that have initiated the proposal on rehiring of inspectors and have spared no effort to accommodate the concerns of all interested parties. The Netherlands sincerely hopes that the Council will finally be able to approve the latest version of the draft decision on this subject, which, after extensive consultations, is on our agenda again.

In closing, I request that this statement be issued as an official document of this Forty-Sixth Meeting of the Executive Council and be published on the OPCW website and extranet.

Thank you.

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