



**OPCW**

**Executive Council**

Forty-Eighth Meeting  
21, 23, 29 January, and 4 February 2015

EC-M-48/NAT.18  
4 February 2015  
ENGLISH only

**ALGERIA**

**JOINT STATEMENT BY ALGERIA, KENYA AND SOUTH AFRICA  
DELIVERED BY H.E. AMBASSADOR NASSIMA BAGHLI  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ALGERIA TO THE OPCW  
AT THE FORTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

I will be delivering this statement on behalf of the delegations of Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, and my own delegation.

At the outset, we reiterate our principled positions expressed in our national statements on the unequivocal condemnation of the use of chemical weapons and toxic chemicals anywhere by anyone and under any circumstances.

Mr Chairperson,

As the Executive Council has just adopted the decision on “Reports of the Fact-Finding Missions in Syria”, we want to put on record our views, as follows:

- (a) We recall that diverse views were expressed by delegations when the Fact-Finding Mission’s reports were presented to the Executive Council;
- (b) We further recall that various delegations requested for clarity with regard to the mandate of that Fact-Finding Mission, specifically the duration and scope of investigations;
- (c) We strongly encourage all States Parties to continue to work constructively in search of a consensus-based approach in keeping with the long established successful practice of the OPCW.

Our delegations would further like to express our views with regard to the decision just adopted, as follows:

- (a) We strongly believe that the matter of continuation of the Fact-Finding Mission should be clarified with respect to its mandate, scope and time frames and this regard we take note of paragraph 5 of the Operative part of the decision;
- (b) With regard to the attribution of responsibility and holding those responsible accountable, we would want to point out that this falls outside the mandate of the FFM.



We would want to remind the Executive Council of the autonomy of the OPCW as an organisation with a technical character. As such, we would embrace an all-inclusive and exhaustive process that will ensure that the Executive Council produces consensual and solid outcome in accordance with the Convention and relevant decisions.

We would like this statement to be circulated as an official document of this Executive Council and placed on the external server of the OPCW.

- - - 0 - - -