



OPCW

Executive Council

Fifty-Eighth Meeting
16 April 2018

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ALBANIA

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR ADIA SAKIQI
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA TO THE OPCW
AT THE FIFTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Albania fully aligns with the statement delivered this morning by Ambassador Kostov of Bulgaria on behalf of the European Union.

We thank the Director-General H.E. Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü and the OPCW staff for their hard work, professionalism and prompt reaction to the recent reports. We commend the deployment of the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) to Douma within the shortest possible time.

Albania strongly condemns the use of chemical weapons in the attack in eastern Ghouta, the Syrian Arab Republic on 7 April. As a State Party to the Chemical Weapons Convention our role takes a significant importance.

In this light, we support the decision of the United States of America, United Kingdom and France to give a proportionate response to the abhorrent use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, especially against civilians and children.

Simultaneously, we should not spare any diplomatic means to put a stop to this unhuman practice of using chemical weapons.

Albania fully supports the FFM's work and is also very supportive of the renewed Security Council endeavours to agree on the establishment of a new independent investigative mechanism.

I ask that this statement be made an official document of this meeting of the Executive Council and published on the external server and the public website of OPCW

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