



OPCW

Conference of the States Parties

Fourth Special Session
26 and 27 June 2018

C-SS-4/NAT.30
27 June 2018
ENGLISH only

MALAYSIA

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR AHMAD NAZRI YUSOF
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE OPCW
AT THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES
PARTIES**

EXPLANATION OF VOTE

Thank you Mr Chairperson,
Mr Director-General,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I wish to congratulate you Mr Chairman for your excellent stewardship of this special session, and the Technical Secretariat for their valuable contribution.

Malaysia lauds the professional, impartial, and independent work of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in achieving the object and purpose of the Convention, by ensuring the full implementation of its provisions, including those regarding international verification, to uphold compliance of States Parties with the Convention.

Following the release of the Fact-Finding Mission's report on Saraqib and Ltamenah in recent weeks, as well as the incidents in Salisbury and Kuala Lumpur International Airport not too long ago, there is undoubtedly an urgent need to bring those who audaciously defy the very objectives of the Convention to justice. This, however, must be done in accordance with the provisions of the Convention as well as international law.

Malaysia deeply regrets the inability of the United Nations Security Council to agree upon a dedicated mechanism to investigate alleged incidents of chemical weapons use in the Syrian Arab Republic since the expiry of the mandate of the UN-OPCW Joint Investigative Mechanism in November last year. Malaysia is concerned that the absence of such a mechanism may impede the process of bringing the perpetrators of chemical weapons incidents in the Syrian Arab Republic to justice.

In finding a solution to this problem, it is imperative that every decision and action taken within the OPCW must be done within the parameters laid out by the Convention, and in accordance to the provisions prescribed by the Convention, in order to avoid such decisions and actions being tainted by unnecessary malign criticisms.



The decision to empower the OPCW with an attribution mandate must be accepted with trust and the responsibility to strengthen the Convention, whilst ensuring that it is not susceptible to abuse or detrimental to any State Party. The OPCW, as a respected technical Organisation, must not be exposed to politicisation in its work, in order to ensure the reputation of this august Organisation remains intact.

I request that this statement be issued as an official document of this special session of the Conference of the States Parties and posted on the OPCW public website. Thank you.

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