Fourth Special Session	C-SS-4/NAT.47
26 and 27 June 2018	26 June 2018
	ENGLISH only

BANGLADESH

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH TO THE OPCW
AT THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES**

EXPLANATION OF VOTE

Mr Chairperson,

Bangladesh voted "abstention" on the draft decision tabled by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on "Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use" at the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention. Bangladesh abstained as we are, like many of you, torn between what to do within such a short time that was made available to us.

Bangladesh has always remained a firm believer in the consensus culture of this Organisation. What has happened to the Organisation is not radical, so now it is time for us to come together to uphold the letter and spirit of the Convention.

And when we take decisions which will have significant consequences for a State Party or States Parties, we feel that enough consultation ought to be conducted with that State Party or Parties. With regard to this draft decision we refer mostly to the Syrian Arab Republic, which is not only a country but also a civilisation and as such, my delegation would like to appeal to all to keep the people of the Syrian Arab Republic in mind before any decision is taken.

Lastly, when it comes to disarmament and non-proliferation, my country believes, like many of you, that there should be much closer cooperation, dialogue and negotiation before a major decision like this is made. Without discussion among ourselves first, it is a little too much to enforce on us a decision like this.

We, therefore, once again appeal to all to continue efforts for our long held consensus culture.

United we shall surely prevail.

Please consider this as an official document of the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties.

I thank you, Mr Chairperson.

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