



OPCW

Executive Council

Sixty-Third Meeting
25 February 2019

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25 February 2019
ENGLISH only

ROMANIA

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
DELIVERED BY H.E. AMBASSADOR BRANDUSA PREDESCU
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ROMANIA TO THE OPCW
AT THE SIXTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Madam Chairperson,
Mr Director-General,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union.

The European Union welcomes the focus on keeping the Chemical Weapons Convention (“the Convention”) up to date in order to keep pace with the evolving challenges.

The EU has full confidence in the scientific expertise of the Technical Secretariat (“the Secretariat”). Furthermore, the EU supports the detailed and comprehensive evaluation by the Secretariat of the proposals submitted by the Russian Federation for a change to the Annex on Chemicals of the Convention. The evaluation is based on solid reliable scientific grounds. Experts in EU Member States who have analysed the proposed additions to the Annex also concur with its conclusions.

The European Union encourages the Executive Council (“the Council”) at its Sixty-Third Meeting to reach a consensus on recommending to States Parties the addition of chemicals included in proposals 1, 2, 3, and 4 tabled by the Russian Federation to Schedule 1 of the Annex on Chemicals to the Convention in a manner consistent with the Joint Proposal by Canada, the Netherlands, and the United States of America, which the Council agreed to recommend to States Parties at its Sixty-Second Meeting.

Thank you for your kind attention!

I would like to request that this statement be circulated as an official document of the Sixty-Third Meeting of the Council and posted on the OPCW external server.

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