

STATEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
DELIVERED BY H.E. AMBASSADOR PÄIVI KAUKORANTA
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FINLAND TO THE OPCW
AT THE 91ST SESSION OF THE OPCW EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Agenda point 6(g)

(THE HAGUE, 11 JULY 2019)

Thank you Mr Chairperson.

The European Union acknowledges the professionalism and work of the OPCW Technical Secretariat under the leadership of its Director General Fernando Arías. We have full confidence in the capacity of the Technical Secretariat to implement the decisions and tasks given by the States Parties. We reiterate our firm support for the Technical Secretariat's efforts to effectively implement the Chemical Weapons Convention.

In the same vein, the European Union reiterates its strong support for the work of the FFM. Its report S/1731/2019 dated 1 March 2019 concludes that the evaluation and analysis of all information gathered by the FFM provide reasonable grounds that the use of toxic chemical as a weapon took place. We commend the work and professionalism of the FFM. This work is essential for paving the way for further steps to identify the perpetrators of these reprehensible attacks.

I would kindly ask you, Mr Chairperson, to register this statement as an official document of the 91st Session of the Executive Council.