



OPCW

Executive Council

101st Session
4 – 6 October 2022

EC-101/NAT.73
4 October 2022
ENGLISH and FRENCH only

FRANCE

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC TO
THE OPCW AT THE 101ST SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
UNDER AGENDA ITEM 6(C)**

Mr Chairperson,

It has now been nine years since Syria submitted its initial declaration upon joining the Chemical Weapons Convention (“the Convention”).

Since then, many issues—20 in fact—remain unanswered in regard to the completeness and truthfulness of that declaration.

Regrettably, Syria’s lack of cooperation is both flagrant and persistent, and as a result it is in breach of its obligations to cooperate with the Technical Secretariat (“the Secretariat”) according to paragraph 7 of Article VII of the Convention and United Nations Security Council resolution 2118 (2013).

Syria’s failure to respond to the repeated requests for deployment of the Declaration Assessment Team (DAT) continues to be of great concern.

We therefore once again call on Syria to grant the members of the DAT access to its territory in line with the provisions of the Convention, and to provide all of the information and documents requested by the Secretariat in order to bring its initial declaration up to date.

We once again commend the tenacity, professionalism, and independence with which the DAT has carried out its mission. It has our full confidence to successfully complete its work.

The French delegation would ask that this statement be considered as an official document of this session of the Executive Council and that it be posted on the public website and on Catalyst.

Thank you.

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