

**AUSTRALIA**  
**STATEMENT BY DR GREGORY FRENCH**  
**PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AUSTRALIA TO THE OPCW**  
**AT THE 103RD SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**Agenda Subitem 7(c) – Elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme**

*Pacta sunt servanda.* We are all obliged to fulfil our treaty obligations in full and in good faith.

Australia joins others in calling out the Syrian Arab Republic's failure to fulfil this most fundamental duty that all of us must fulfil.

We are not talking about minor technical breaches.

Failure to comply with its obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and United Nations Security Council Resolution 2118 goes to the heart of the CWC system that we have all solemnly committed to.

We know exactly what the Convention and the Security Council require of Syria; it is simple and clear: provide clear information to deal with the 20 key discrepancies identified.

There must be compliance to enable accountability.

We strongly support and applaud the work of the Technical Secretariat in seeking to support Syria to fulfil Syria's obligations.

We call on Syria to cooperate fully and in good faith.

I ask that this statement be made an official document of the 103<sup>rd</sup> session of the Executive Council, and for it to be published on the OPCW external server and the public website.

Thank you, Chair.