

STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR FERNANDO SIMAS MAGALHÃES  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL TO THE OPCW

*Sixty-Eight Meeting of the Executive Council*

*22 July 2025*

Mr Chair,

Brazil acknowledges the potential value of establishing a permanent Technical Secretariat presence in Damascus, as part of broader efforts to rebuild confidence and enhance cooperation with the Syrian Arab Republic.

We recognize the importance of seizing the current window of opportunity for renewed engagement. However, we also believe such a step must be approached with caution, taking into full account the security and political context on the ground.

In this regard, we cannot ignore the volatility of the situation in Syria, including the recent airstrikes conducted by Israel against official targets in Damascus. These attacks were duly and timely condemned by Brazil, as they violate Syria's sovereignty, independence, unity, and territorial integrity, and jeopardize the full implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in that country.

Brazil therefore urges careful consideration of the timing and modalities of any expanded presence of OPCW in Syria, to avoid unintended consequences and to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the Organization's work.

Please make this statement available through OPCW information channels, Catalyst and public website.

Thank you.