



OPCW

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ENGLISH and SPANISH only

CHILE

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JUAN MARTABIT
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CHILE TO THE OPCW
AT THE SEVENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairperson,

I shall not elaborate on the historic decision EC-M-33/DEC.1 on the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons, which we adopted in this Council on 27 September past, since I spoke comprehensively on it at our last meeting.

I should like to take this opportunity to touch briefly on only two matters, which seem to me to be important.

First of all, my delegation trusts that, at the end of this session, we shall place on record the gratitude and recognition of this Council for the dedicated, excellent work done by the staff of the OPCW in the Syrian Arab Republic, under extremely difficult circumstances. Similarly, we must, obviously, extend our thanks to the Director-General and the whole team from the Technical Secretariat, which has raised the name of our Organisation to the heights.

We, the States Parties, must now support each and every one of them so that they might complete the next stages of the enormous challenges which lie ahead. It is very appropriate to express to them our appreciation and trust.

Secondly, I should like to highlight the capacity, vision and leadership with which Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü has been able to guide this Organisation, even in complex tasks such as those imposed by the verification of Syrian chemical disarmament. That is why we give strong support to him continuing as Director-General of the OPCW for another four-year period. I am convinced that his personal and professional qualities will allow this Organisation to continue carrying out the work which all of us, and the international community, expect from it.

I should be obliged if this statement could be issued as an official document of this session.

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