



Republic of Poland

**Statement by H.E. Jan Borkowski Permanent Representative**  
of Poland to the OPCW at the 77<sup>th</sup> session of Executive Council

*Mr. Chairperson,  
Director-General,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,*

Poland fully aligns itself with the statement of the European Union.

The OPCW Fact Finding Mission (FFM) in Syria confirmed the use of toxic chemicals as chemical weapons. This is deplorable and contrary to international norms. The application of chemical weapons undermines the credibility of the Convention and the OPCW. Therefore Poland expects that the Executive Council during its 77<sup>th</sup> session will condemn the use of chemical weapons without conditions.

Poland reaffirms its support for the decision of the Director General to continue the Fact Finding Mission and investigate all allegations concerning the possible use of toxic chemicals in Syria. We also express our appreciation to the staff of the Mission for their dedication and professionalism. Their security must remain the highest priority.

*Mr. Chairperson,*

The use of toxic industrial chemicals for prohibited purposes poses a challenge to the CWC, because it provides a pathway to re-emergence of chemical weapons. Therefore the OPCW should actively deal with all such cases and promote enhancing chemical security at chemical plants. The recommendations of Third Review Conference may be helpful in that regard and enhance the role of the OPCW as a global agency to reduce the chemical threat.

*Mr. Chairperson,*

Poland welcomes successful elimination of Syrian chemical weapons programme and progress in destruction of chemicals outside Syria. We would like to express our appreciation to all involved States Parties as well as the OPCW-UN Joint Mission for this great achievement realized under difficult conditions and in such a short time.

Poland believes that the next phase of the mission conducted under auspices of UNOPS and coordination of the OPCW will also reach a successful conclusion.

*Mr. Chairperson,*

I would like to use this opportunity to briefly touch upon the subject of the international assistance for the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons production facilities (CWPFs). In response to the request by the Technical Secretariat the Government of Poland decided to allow use of Polish contribution to the Syria Trust Fund for Destruction of Chemical Weapons for the purposes of financing the destruction of the declared chemical weapons production facilities in Syria.

*Mr. Chairperson,*

Before I conclude I would like to express appreciation to Ambassador Eduardo Rodríguez Veltzé (Bolivia) and Domingos Alvim (Portugal) for swift conduct of consultations on the Programme and Budget of the Organization for 2015. It is a good budget, which provides means for the OPCW transformation and adaptation to changing environment.

I request that this statement be circulated as an official document of this session.