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MALAYSIA

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR AHMAD NAZRI YUSOF
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE OPCW
AT THE EIGHTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Thank you, Mr Chairperson, Mr Director-General, distinguished delegates.

Mr Chairperson,

My delegation is pleased to welcome you once again to the Chair. We trust, under your able chairmanship, this upcoming session will reach its desired outcome and objective.

As member of the Non-aligned movement, Malaysia aligned itself with the statement and views expressed by His Excellency the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of NAM CWC and China.

My delegation joins others in thanking the Director-General for his comprehensive report and the Technical Secretariat for the extensive work done. We commend their dedication and hard work.

My delegation wishes to reiterate Malaysia's commitment to the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all provisions of the Convention and reaffirm that the use of chemical weapons and toxic chemicals as a weapon, anywhere by anyone under any circumstances is reprehensible and completely contrary to the Convention, the United Nations resolutions, international legal norms and must be condemned.

We urge and call on all possessor States to strictly comply with the Convention and take all necessary measures to ensure total destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles, old chemical weapons and abandoned chemical weapons as specified by the provisions of the Convention.

Malaysia welcomes the complete destruction of the declared Syrian chemical weapons and the progress made on the destruction of the identified production facilities.

Sadly however, there are still gaps and inconsistencies in the declaration of the existing chemical weapons and destruction work on identified production facilities still encounter repeated delays and postponement. This, to a certain extent, has unnecessarily strained the resources of the Organisation.



In this respect, we implore the Syrian Arab Republic and all involved parties to take more serious steps and double their efforts to minimise these shortcomings, so that we can divert our resources for other equally pressing matters.

Malaysia takes note of the work done and the report by the Fact-Finding Mission (FFM) and looks forward to receiving the final report of FFM (Bravo). We take note of the first report of the Joint Investigative Mechanism (JIM) submitted to the United Nations Security Council on 12 February 2016 pursuant to resolution 2235 (2015). We are confident JIM will adhere strictly to the principles of impartiality, objectivity and independence in conducting its mission.

On the same note, Malaysia welcomes Libya's sincerity and openness, admitting its inability and requesting the assistance of OPCW, to fully destroy its remaining stockpiles. Malaysia recognised the urgency of the situation and wishes to reiterate its support of the decision by the Council at the Fifty-First Executive Council Meeting on 24 February 2016, that a swift and effective action in Libya is a matter of necessity, to ensure complete and timely destruction of all chemical weapons, to circumvent those chemicals falling into the wrong hands or terrorist groups.

Malaysia notes with satisfaction the progress made on the consultation of the Open-Ended Working Group on Terrorism and the Sub-Working Group on Non-State Actors. We congratulate and commend the efforts of the Chairs and welcome the interim report despite of the divergence views. It is vital in our opinion, that the basis of this process should take into account the importance of a legal framework that is inclusive and universal, relevant, and applicable for all States Parties, in accordance with the Convention.

Touching on future priorities of this Organisation, complete elimination of all categories of chemical weapons should remain the priority focus. Malaysia is committed to the full implementation of the Convention and underscores the principle of balance and fair treatment for all States Parties be upheld. We should not be selective or deny States Parties of their rights to benefit from the OPCW process. States Parties lacking capacity and capability should deserve appropriate attention and assistance so that they will not be left behind in the implementation of the Convention.

Malaysia also attaches great importance on education and outreach programmes, as one important instrument to achieve full implementation of the Convention. In this respect, we strongly feel that cooperation and collaboration, between and among States Parties, National Authorities, sectors of industry and all other stakeholders, should be encouraged and enhanced.

Thank you, for your attention and may I request that this statement be circulated as an official document of this session of the Executive Council.

Thank you.

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