



**OPCW**

**Executive Council**

Thirty-Ninth Meeting  
21 and 25 February 2014

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21 February 2014  
ENGLISH only

**NORWAY**

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR ANNIKEN KRUTNES PERMANENT  
REPRESENTATIVE OF NORWAY AT THE THIRTY-NINTH MEETING OF  
THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairperson,

Norway aligns herself with the statement of the European Union.

Norway is deeply concerned about the lack of progress on the Syrian side to implement the Executive Council decisions and the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2118. Norway is fully committed to the decisions on the removal and destruction of the Syrian chemical weapons, and we have been deeply involved in the maritime operations to achieve this goal. We urge the Syrian Arab Republic to show the same level of commitment and fulfil its obligations in this regard.

All logistical assets required for in-country transportation have been made available. In spite of this, the operation has been very slow. Only three shipments have taken place so far and the quantity of chemicals received is limited. The time frame of 5 February set by the Executive Council for the removal of all chemicals is long overdue. Norway therefore strongly supports the calls of the UNSG, the UNSC, and the Director-General, for the Syrian authorities to accelerate the transportation of chemical components to Latakia. We expect substantial progress in removing chemicals before the beginning of the next Executive Council Meeting on 4 March. We urge the Syrian Arab Republic to provide a time line for the operation allowing for the 30 June deadline for destruction to be met.

Norway is also concerned about the lack of progress in the destruction of the Syrian chemical weapons production facilities, and we underline the responsibility of the Syrian Arab republic to fulfil its obligations by the deadline set by the Executive Council.

I request that this statement be included as an official document of the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the Executive Council

Thank you for your attention.

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