



OPCW

Executive Council

Thirty-Ninth Meeting
21 and 25 February 2014

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SPANISH and ENGLISH only

MEXICO

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR EDUARDO IBARROLA
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MEXICO TO THE OPCW AT THE
THIRTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairman,

As we have been saying here since 2013, on various occasions, I should like to stress once more the great importance which the Government of Mexico attaches to the complete destruction of chemical weapons, which is why my country is continuing to offer firm support to the destruction of the Syrian chemical weapons.

Progress has been made, but we are concerned to see that the deadlines set for the removal of the chemicals have not been met, and that this might affect the date in June of this year for the total destruction of those chemical weapons.

We appeal to the Syrian Arab Republic to redouble its efforts and to consider the proposal of the Operational Planning Group so that the removal of the chemical weapons from its territory might be carried out in as short a time as possible, to enable compliance with the destruction deadlines set in the Executive Council decision of 15 November 2013.

We are also aware of the exceptional nature of the situation and of the security problems in the Syrian Arab Republic, which is why Mexico considers it of vital importance that the safety of the inspectors and the staff of the OPCW-UN Joint Mission continue to be a priority consideration. Once more we commend the professionalism and commitment of the Technical Secretariat in discharging this sensitive responsibility.

We also value the support of the international community to the process, and are grateful to the States Parties that are contributing personnel, equipment and financial resources to such sensitive work.

I should be obliged if this statement could be considered as an official document of this meeting of the Executive Council.

Thank you.

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