



**OPCW**

**Executive Council**

Fortieth Meeting  
28 March, 11 and 29 April 2014

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28 March 2014  
ENGLISH and SPANISH only

**CHILE**

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR JUAN MARTABIT  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CHILE TO THE OPCW AT THE  
FORTIETH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairman,

First of all, we would like to welcome the new colleagues attending this meeting of the Council for the first time. I am referring to the Permanent Representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran and of the Kingdom of Spain.

We wish to thank the Director-General for the report he submitted today, as well as for the weekly reports that the Technical Secretariat issues on the progress made in the chemical disarmament in the Syrian Arab Republic.

We have taken due note of the latest shipment of chemical agents verified yesterday, and of the unsettled security situation that prevails in that country.

Without prejudice to the aforesaid, we regret the fact that notwithstanding the significant resources provided by several countries for these purposes and the progress made by the Syrian Government, we are witnessing with dismay a delay in the removal of chemical agents with respect to what should have been removed according to the timetable submitted by the Syrian authorities themselves. We should bear in mind that we are over two weeks away from the planned date for the removal of all chemicals that must be destroyed outside the Syrian Arab Republic. We should break the vicious circle of offers, negotiations, pledges and subsequent non-compliance.

Coming back to the issue of security, which is of major importance, we agree with the Special Coordinator of the Joint Mission and the Secretary-General of the United Nations that the very precarious and volatile state of affairs underlines even more the importance of accelerating the removal of the chemical weapons-related materials in the safest possible way.

With respect to the plans for destruction and verification of the 12 chemical weapons production facilities, we wish to express our appreciation and recognition to the OPCW experts and the Technical Secretariat in general for the seriousness and professionalism with which they have addressed the great responsibility assigned by this Council for assisting the Syrian Arab Republic, while doing their utmost to develop a common approach, for this country to submit a revised destruction plan. The same applies to the combined plans for destruction and verification that the Technical Secretariat submitted to us.



Two weeks after those plans were made available to delegations we would have wished to take a decision in that respect today instead of being informed that, in spite of the consultations held, no agreement has been reached.

In this context, we would request that, in a constructive spirit and based on the work already done by the Secretariat in consultation with the Syrian Arab Republic and other stakeholders, the effective destruction and verification plans for those facilities be made available as soon as possible in accordance with the principles and requirements of the Convention.

Mr Chairperson, I should be obliged if this statement be circulated as an official document of this meeting.

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