



OPCW

Executive Council

Forty-Second Meeting
17 and 30 June 2014

EC-M-42/NAT.13
17 June 2014
ENGLISH and SPANISH only

URUGUAY

**STATEMENT BY DR VERONICA CREGO
ALTERNATE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF URUGUAY TO THE OPCW
AT THE FORTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairman,

The delegation of Uruguay thanks the Director-General and the Special Coordinator of the OPCW-UN Joint Mission for presenting their respective reports relating to the programme for the elimination of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic. It also repeats its gratitude to the members of the Technical Secretariat for the outstanding work it has been carrying out during this disarmament process.

This delegation should like to express solidarity and profound gratitude to the inspectors of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the personnel of the United Nations, who were subjected to the attack of 27 May last, while carrying out their fact-finding mission to establish the facts surrounding the allegations of attacks with chlorine gas in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Uruguay expresses its rejection of these attacks which placed at risk the lives of personnel working to implement the relevant decisions of the Executive Council of the OPCW, and supports the decision to continue the work of the mission with a view to shedding light on the facts alleged.

As regards the disarmament process, Uruguay recognises the efforts of the Syrian Arab Republic in achieving the removal of 93% of the chemicals on its territory. It nonetheless encourages the Syrian Arab Republic to make a major effort to complete the removal of these weapons as quickly as possible. To this end, it has the benefit of the operational and logistical support and the international assistance necessary to advance purposefully to that objective.

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

Thank you very much.

--- 0 ---

