Mr. Chairman,

I wish to make just a couple of points.

We are concerned by the findings of the Fact Finding Mission (FFM) of repeated and systematic use of toxic chemicals – probably chlorine gas – as a weapon in Syria. We condemn it, regardless of which party is responsible. However, as all the facts are still not well established, we believe it is important for the FFM to carry out further investigations. We, therefore, welcome the proposal of the DG to ask the FFM to continue its work. It is also our expectation, Mr. Chairman, that the perpetrators of these abominable acts will be held accountable.

Mr. Chairman,

The destruction of the 12 Chemical Weapons Production Facilities (CWPFs) remains an unfinished task and a priority. We would like this process to be completed in accordance with the EC decision on it. Then there is also the matter of destruction of the residual chemical stockpiles outside of Syria. We hope very much, Mr. Chairman, that the EC will not be distracted from these pending tasks because of divisive debates.

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