



OPCW

Executive Council

Forty-Ninth Meeting
7 May 2015

EC-M-49/NAT.4
7 May 2015
ENGLISH and SPANISH only

PERU

**STATEMENT BY MINISTER COUNSELLOR ALFREDO FORTES
ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF PERU TO THE OPCW AT THE
FORTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairperson,

First of all, I would like to welcome the presentations by the Director-General and the Technical Secretariat regarding the progress made in the elimination of the chemical weapons programme in the Syrian Arab Republic and the recent activities of the Declaration Assessment Team.

We believe it opportune and necessary that the work of the Fact-Finding Mission continue with the investigation into the facts of the alleged incidents involving chemical weapons that may exist. In this sense, we call upon the parties in Syria to offer their full and effective support for the OPCW's Mission.

In this regard, Peru reiterates its major concern for these alleged incidents and therefore once again expresses its most vehement condemnation of the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, by anyone and under any circumstances.

My delegation appreciates the continued conversations of the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic with the Technical Secretariat's Declaration Assessment Team (DAT) concerning said country's initial declaration.

We have noted that several of the outstanding matters highlighted by the DAT in previous presentations remain unresolved today.

At the same time, our attention is drawn to the great number of visits by the DAT to the Syrian Arab Republic. The next visit—the ninth—will not be the last. In this sense, we are concerned about the limited progress that has been achieved on this matter, despite the fact that more than one year has passed since the DAT's first visit.

We therefore reiterate our call to the Syrian Arab Republic to continue cooperating on this important matter toward clarifying any possible discrepancies and determining any need to make additional amendments to remedy any possible errors or omissions and, at the same time, guarantee the precision and completeness of its initial declaration. All of this will facilitate the completion of the DAT's final report in the shortest possible time.



Finally, my delegation wishes to express its thanks and congratulate you on your magnificent work as Council Chairperson during an especially busy year for the Organisation.

We would be most grateful if this statement could be made an official document of this Meeting of the Executive Council.

Thank you.

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