



**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR I GUSTI AGUNG WESAKA PUJA  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO THE OPCW  
AT THE 54<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE OPCW**

***Madame Chairperson, Director General,***

I thank you for convening this special and important meeting.

The use of chemical weapons and toxic chemicals as a weapon anywhere by anyone and under any circumstances is completely contrary to the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention and all norms of international law.

While supporting the ongoing independent investigation by the Fact Finding Mission (FFM), as informed by the Director General, and looking forward to its outcomes, the alleged use of chemical weapons in Khan Sheikun, Idlib Province, Syria on 4 April 2017 must be condemned as it resulted a loss of many innocent lives including children. Those responsible for such atrocity must be held accountable.

The existence of weapons of mass destruction continues to pose a threat to international peace and security. Consequently, Indonesia wishes to reiterate its long-standing principled position toward the achievement of general and complete disarmament, under strict and effective international control, including the prohibition and elimination of all weapons of mass destruction in line with the Chemical Weapons Convention.

***Madame Chairperson,***

Indonesia remains firm in its principled position of a peaceful approach to conflict resolution. For Indonesia, peace and stability in Syria can only be achieved through dialogue and an inclusive political process, not through military actions.

Diplomatic efforts to achieve a political solution must always continue to end the horrific war and conflict in Syria.

***Madame Chairperson,***

Regarding the alleged use of chemical weapons in Idlib on 4 April 2017, it is encouraging to note that the FFM is currently looking into such allegation. We fully support the FFM and urge that everything possible be undertaken in accordance with its mandate as well as the provisions of the Convention.

It is absolutely important that such an independent investigation must be carried out in an objective, impartial and professional manner, with the full support from all the parties concerned.

We urge the Executive Council members to consider this in order to reach a peaceful and comprehensive solution.

I request that this statement be treated as an official public document.

Thank you Madame Chair.