



**OPCW**

**Executive Council**

Fifty-Fifth Meeting

5 July 2017

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5 July 2017

ENGLISH and SPANISH only

**PERU**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF PERU  
AT THE FIFTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairperson,

As this is the first time that my delegation has requested the floor since you became Chairperson of this honourable Executive Council, I would like to convey our sincere congratulations and our confidence that under your leadership, we will continue to move forward with the prudence and rigour that the international community expects from this Organisation. You may count on our commitment to make a positive contribution to the success as Chairperson of the Council. Likewise, we voice our strong gratitude for Ambassador Odette Melono and her wise and skilful leadership during a particularly challenging and complex period.

Our delegation has consistently reiterated its profound concern about the use of chemical weapons in Syrian territory. Regrettably, the most recent reports by the Fact-Finding Mission bring our focus back to the horrors caused by the use of chemical weapons, in response to which we must once again express our strongest condemnation of the use of chemical weapons by anyone and under any circumstance.

We believe that the Fact-Finding Mission has accomplished the task with which it was entrusted concerning the incidents that took place on 16 September 2016 in Um-Housh and 4 April 2017 in Khan Shaykhun, and we voice our gratitude for the work that has been done. Now the Joint Investigative Mechanism established by the Organisation for the Prohibition and Chemicals with the United Nations Security Council must move forward with investigations that will allow it to identify the perpetrators of these barbaric acts and bring them to justice.

At the same time, we reiterate our call to all of the parties involved to be guided by responsibility and prudence in their actions, and to strengthen the mechanisms necessary to find a solution to the dramatic situation affecting thousands of human beings in Syria, including young boys and girls.

Thank you.

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