

**Statement by the Delegation of Portugal at the 57th Meeting of the
Executive Council of the OPCW (4 April 2018)**

Mr Chairperson,

Portugal fully aligns itself with the statement made by the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the OPCW on behalf of the European Union.

Portugal reiterates in the most vehement terms its condemnation of the chemical attack in Salisbury, as well as its firm solidarity with the United Kingdom.

In line with the active part that Portugal has taken in response to this attack, both in international *fora* such as NATO and the OSCE, as well as within the European Council and the Foreign Affairs Council of the EU, Portugal expects Russian Authorities to present plausible clarifications on this matter.

We also expect a commitment to the creation of the necessary conditions for a thorough investigation of the facts and for bringing the responsible to justice.

I request that this document be circulated as an official document of this EC session.

Thank you.