



OPCW

Executive Council

Fifty-Seventh Meeting
4 April 2018

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FINLAND

**STATEMENT BY MS SARI UUSI-RAUVA
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND
TO THE OPCW
AT THE FIFTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr Chairperson, Mr Director-General, Excellences, ladies and gentlemen,

Finland fully supports the statement made by Bulgaria on behalf of the European Union.

We have condemned in the strongest possible terms the attack in Salisbury, and expressed our full support for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in bringing clarity to the matter.

By taking the floor today, I simply wanted to add my delegation's voice to those underlining the need for accountability for this reprehensible act. Accountability is absolutely vital for upholding the norm against the use of chemical weapons – a responsibility shared by all of us as States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Finland has full confidence in the United Kingdom's investigation. We, as others, also appreciate the assistance extended by the OPCW Technical Secretariat in response to the United Kingdom's request. The contribution of the Russian Federation to bringing clarity to the case is also urgently needed.

For now, it is important to let the Technical Secretariat conclude its work. We look forward to being informed of its results once they become available.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.

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