

**Statement by Estonia to the OPCW
59th Meeting of the Executive Council
18 April 2018**

Mr Chairperson,

Estonia fully supports the European Union statement delivered by the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria, Ambassador Kostov. In my national capacity I would like to:

Express once again our solidarity with the United Kingdom in its endeavours to unravel the criminal attack against civilians in Salisbury on 4 March 2018 in a transparent way.

Estonia has a full confidence in the report of the OPCW Technical Assistance Visit team that confirmed the findings of the United Kingdom's laboratory that a military grade toxic chemical was used. The attempts to undermine the impartial outcomes of the OPCW TAV report should be not tolerated and therefore we support the calls by the United Kingdom and the international community to the Russian Federation to disclose fully and completely its Novichok programme to the OPCW.

Last but not least we want to acknowledge the Director General Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü for his solid leadership and Mr. Chairman Ambassador Sheikh Mohammed Belal for his professionalism in this deeply regrettable and tense situation what we are facing in the OPCW today.

I would kindly ask that this statement be issued as an official document and placed on the OPCW public website.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.