



الجمهورية العربية السورية

Syrian Arab Republic

**Statement by Ambassador  
Milad Atieh  
Permanent Representative of the  
Syrian Arab Republic to the OPCW  
For the Ninety-Ninth Session of the Executive Council**

**Agenda Item 7(e): Addressing the threat from  
chemical weapons use**

**The Hague, 8-11 March 2022**

**Courtesy Translation**

## **Madame Chairperson, ladies and gentlemen, members of the Executive Council**

We have repeatedly emphasized that Syria categorically rejects the use of chemical weapons by anyone, at any time and under any circumstances.

The Syrian Arab Republic reaffirms its explicit and clear position rejecting the decision issued by the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties in June 2018, which was imposed through voting, and only received the support of (82) out of (193) state parties. Syria voted against it, along with 23 countries, and many countries abstained from voting on this resolution. Syria considers this decision to be political par excellence, inconsistent with the provisions of the Convention, as it contributes to diverting the organization from the goals for which it was established, and will create a negative impact on the future of the organization in the long run.

As for the illegal Investigation and Identification Team,(IIT)Syria reiterates its refusal to recognize and deal with it, because it was established with an illegal authority and reference, and the mandate entrusted to this team is illegal and not based on the Convention .

And the reports issued by this team so far, prove with conclusive evidence the extent of politicization and the goals for which it was created, which is the accusation of Syrian personalities and specific names based on the will, instructions and directives of some countries known for their anti-Syrian positions.

The approach followed by this team in its work and its investigations is completely similar to the approach followed by the Fact-Finding Mission (FFM), completely unprofessional and dishonest.

My delegation regrets that the Technical Secretariat and some well-known countries blindly adopt everything issued by this team, not out of its professionalism, integrity and objectivity, but because this team does what those countries want, and that is accusing the Syrian government of using chemical weapons in alleged incidents.

**Thank you, and please consider this statement as an official document of the Ninety-Ninth Session of the Executive Council, and publish it on the public and catalyst websites of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.**