



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE OPCW AT THE FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION UNDER AGENDA ITEM 11

Mr Chairperson

The Chemical Weapons Convention has been one of the most successful international disarmament treaties, and it will remain so if the States Parties commit to the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of all the articles of the Convention and address any problems through dialogue, mutual understanding, cooperation, and consensus. The Review Conferences are unique occasions to renew our commitment to the goals and purposes of the Convention and consolidate efforts to move beyond any polarisation.

My delegation values your efforts, Mr Chairperson, and the efforts of those who tirelessly attempted to reach a consensus on the final outcome document.

Over the past 10 months, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran constructively participated in the meetings and deliberations of the Open-Ended Working Group for the Preparation of the Fifth Review Conference, and extended full cooperation and flexibility for its successful conclusion. While appreciating the efforts of H.E. Ambassador Lauri Kuusing, we wish the Working Group had gone into serious negotiations, so the delegations had been burdened with less pressure during the few days of the Conference.

It is deeply regrettable that, in spite of all efforts made by the Working Group and the in Committee of the Whole, this Review Conference could not reach a consensus on its final outcome documents. Indeed, the blame for this unwarranted situation lies exclusively with those who are trying to transform the OPCW from a technical body to one of political leverage by politicising the issues at hand. The Islamic Republic of Iran invites all Member States to avoid further polarisation of the OPCW and adopt a strategic approach to bridge the rifts, which is vividly far away from the goals and purposes enshrined in the Convention.

Having said that, I would like to underline the full commitment of the Islamic Republic of Iran—the 1 victim of chemical weapons in modern history—to the goals and purposes of the Convention and reemphasise the utmost importance of universality, as well as the full, effective, and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention.

With regard to the statement made by the representative of Ukraine, my delegation categorically rejects and strongly condemns the fabricated and unsubstantiated claims about Iran's involvement in the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine, or the attribution of any unmanned



aerial vehicles used in the conflicts to Iran. Such unfounded allegations, which are solely based on false flags or dubious assumptions, are nothing but a mere propaganda apparatus launched to support a short-sighted political agenda. In fact, bringing up these allegations at this Conference—which clearly has a different mandate—is, in and of itself, more evidence of the political motivations that have made this Conference a failure.

I request that this statement be circulated as an official document of this session and posted on the OPCW's public website and the Catalyst platform.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.

--- 0 ---