

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
AT THE 103rd SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
UNDER AGENDA ITEM 7(e)

Mr Chairperson,

The Islamic Republic of Iran condemns in the strongest possible terms the use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere, and under any circumstances. The Islamic Republic of Iran as a major victim of systematic use of chemical weapons in contemporary history, has always supported the mandate of the Organisation to achieve the object and purpose of the Convention.

My delegation has time and again expressed its serious concerns that in recent years, a few non-consensual decisions, including the decision “Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use” (C-SS-4/DEC.3, dated 27 June 2018) and the decision “Addressing the Possession and Use of Chemical Weapons by the Syrian Arab Republic” (C-25/DEC.9, dated 21 April 2021) are overruling the Chemical Weapons Convention, leading to more polarisation and politicisation of this august body. Undoubtedly, the lack of consensus and common understanding among States Parties on critical and cross-cutting issues precludes the Organisation from achieving the noble goal of the Convention: a world free of chemical weapons, which is its *raison d’être*.

Apart from having strong position regarding IIT, my delegation is firmly convinced that the way and quality, in which the so-called Syrian dossier is being handled, would have a long-lasting effect on the Organisation's future work, its credibility among States Parties and professionalism of the Technical Secretariat.

I request that this statement be posted as an official document of this session on the OPCW catalyst and public website.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.