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**In the Name of God**

**STATEMENT BY  
H.E. DR ALIREZA JAHANGIRI  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN  
TO THE OPCW AT THE FORTY-EIGHT MEETING  
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**21 January 2015**

**Mr. Chairperson,**

At the outset, I would like to thank the distinguished Director General for his informative briefing and appreciate his efforts in dealing with various aspects of the issue of the elimination of the Syrian Arab Republic chemical weapons program.

**Mr. Chairperson,**

The accession of Syrian Arab Republic to the Convention prompted the universality of the Convention in the Middle East; after this development, there is no any justification for Zionist Regime of Israel to stay out of the Convention. The international community shall spare no effort to force this regime to accede to the Convention without further delay and precondition in order to remove the main source of concern and threat to the regional and international peace and security.

As the victim of the use of chemical weapons, we condemn any use of mass destruction weapons including chemical weapons by anyone and under any circumstances and believes that the use of these kind of barbaric weapons is a gross violation of legally established international norms, in particular, the Chemical Weapons Convention,

We welcome the progress achieved on elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons program, in particular recent progress on destruction of 12 production facilities. In meanwhile, the completion of destruction of remaining of chemicals and disposal of effluents on commercial facilities in the US, UK, Germany and Finland are also important parts of this process.

While commending the efforts are ongoing by the Declaration Assessment Team, we also welcome the cooperation extended by the Syrian Arab Republic to the Team, in particular its “additional transparency measures”, demonstrating the concerned State Party’s serious determination for dealing with this issue in a proper way.

We reiterate our firm belief that achievements in this process shall be preserved by all States Parties. In this process, the main achievements are credibility, confidence building and reputation of the Organization. Now, this feat is in danger. Shifting from technical aspect towards political and security aspects will threat the said achievements. In particular, any interpretation that can endanger the credibility and reputation of the Organization should be prevented. This is the only way for realization of our ultimate goal to achieve a world free of chemical weapons.

Valid available information and proved investigated allegations ascertain that the armed terrorist groups in Middle East have capabilities of use of chemical weapons and toxic chemicals including chlorine and they used against civilians and soldiers. An investigation should be carried out on providers of these capabilities to the terrorist groups and the supporter countries should be accountable in this regard.

Once again Mr. Chairman, given the progress achieved and accomplishment of the main parts of process for elimination of CWs of the Syria Arab Republic, inter alia, dismantling the equipments, completion of destruction of chemicals inside the Syrian Arab Republic, removal and Approximate completion of the chemicals outside of the Syrian Arab Republic, commencing the destruction of chemical weapons production facilities, we are of the view that it is high time to deal with the issue of Syria in a normal mode and specially we believe there is no need to have more monthly meeting of the EC.

**Mr. Chairperson,**

On new report of the FFM which includes some more information but not new, complementary to its second report, my delegation would like to express its views and positions in this regard as follows:

- As underlined previously, our expectation to receive a technical, comprehensive and professional report still has not met;
- The issued complementary report of FFM still suffering from use of incredible resources of information, mainly based on testimonies of those witness that are under control of terrorist groups;

- Concerns still remain on the role of two well-known NGOs in this process;
- A lot of questions and ambiguities still surround the report and approach of team in selecting, interviewing and collecting data from unreliable resources;
- As previously mentioned, various parts of the information and the sources contained in the report are seriously under question and doubt, and therefore the conclusion made by incredible sources of information is even more incredible and it can only be credible and fruitful for those pursuing their own political agenda in this technical organization.
- The report is not comprehensive, because only includes information from one side;
- The report is not enough technical, because the team was not allowed to carry out field investigation, while the allegations raised by those that have control of the concerned regions!!

**Mr. Chairperson,**

The question is how we can put money on this report and considering the request for submitting the report to the Security Council!!!

Once again we underline that the reports made by incredible sources of information should not be used as the basis for our decisions. This direction would jeopardize the integrity, credibility and reputation of the Organization. Therefore, we are of the view no action can be prevailed on the reports of the FFM.

In conclusion, I would like to request that this statement to be issued as an official document of the Forty-Eight Meeting of the Executive Council.

**Thank you.**

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