

## ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

### STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR DR ALIREZA JAHANGIRI PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE OPCW AT THE SIXTIEH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

4<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Madam Chairperson

1. I would like to congratulate Your Excellency Ambassador Reinišová, as the Chairperson of the Executive Council. I assure you of full cooperation of my delegation and would like to express my best wishes for success in your tasks.
2. I would like also to thank H.E. Ambassador Shiek Mohammad Belal the pervious Chairperson of the Executive Council for his efforts during his term.
3. I would also like to congratulate to the State of Palestine for its accession to the Convention and the OPCW. My delegation considers it as a step forward in realizing the universalizing of the Convention. I seize this opportunity to request the States Parties and Technical Secretariat to put pressure on those outsiders, in particular Israeli regime, to accede to it as soon as possible and without any preconditions.

Madam Chairperson;

4. The Islamic Republic of Iran as the main victim of chemical weapons reiterates its principal position in condemning in the strongest possible terms the use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere, and under any circumstances. In the same vein, upholding of the global ban against the use of chemical weapons is one of the goals and purposes of our foreign policy.
5. Given the fact that the two main events of the Organization i.e. the 23<sup>rd</sup> Conference of States Parties and the 4<sup>th</sup> Review Conference in 2018 are ahead, the request for convening another Session of the Conference of the States Parties is an overburden upon the States Parties to the Convention. We do not assume that holding Special Conference of the States Parties cloud be necessary at this juncture.
6. According to the paragraph 18 of the Article VIII of the Convention, decisions of the CSP should be based on consensus. It is highly expected that the States Parties avoid any attempts to weaken this precedent in the meetings and sessions of the Organization. During more than two decades of implementation of the Convention, the States Parties had been able to obtain the valuable achievements based on the consensus and the spirit of solidarity among the States Parties. Any attempts towards undermining this valuable achievement will lead us to confrontation and polarization of the States Parties which should be avoided. Unfortunately we were witnessed such trends during the recent meetings of the Executive Council.
7. Considering the aforementioned arguments, the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that the request to hold Special Conference of the States Parties could not only assist the Organization to its noble goals, but also lead to diversion of views among Members States and waste the valuable time and resources of the Members States.
8. At this juncture holding such an event is not necessary and we are against such proposal.

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