

**Statement of the Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran  
on the proposal by China and Russian Federations  
in CSP 23**

Since I have taken the floor for the first time in the august body let me congratulate you Ambassador Lee, chairperson of the Conference for your election. I would also like to congratulate Ambassador Arias Director General for his appointment.

The OPCW, our organization, through constructive collaboration among all SPs had already achieved outstanding successes. These accomplishments were beholden to various factors on top of which has been respect to consensual decision making. We believe that consensus is a valuable tradition in all WMD treaties and we ought to protect it for further successes of the organization. It is taken from the most important principle of undiminished security for all adopted in the First Special Session of the UNGA for Disarmament.

However, this principle is at risk. The intention of some SPs to ignore this way of decision making along with frequent attempts to politicize the organization are threatening the efficiency and also independence of the Organization. As proven in the Fourth Special Session of the CSP, a weak decision, not a victory, to accord the responsibility of the attribution to the OPCW or to the TS, by votes of only 82 SPs, ironically even less than half of the OPCW member states, runs the risk of undermining organizations' independence and impartiality and as we have already mentioned it will damage the OPCW and the Convention itself from different angles including legal point of view. In fact, the said decision is a substantial change to the text of the Convention and the Organization which is required to proceed through an amendment conference as provided in Article XV of the Convention. We strongly and persistently object to this manner and decision and urge the

Conference, bearing in mind the undesirable implications of that decision, to redress the situation and come up with a result adopted by consensus.

In this regard we support the proposal by China and Russian Federations. In our view the establishment of open-ended working group will help redress the undesirable situation of division between the States Parties. We urge all Member States to support this proposal.

I thank you Mr. Chair.