



**OPCW**

**Review Conference**

Fourth Session  
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**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC  
OF IRAN ON THE CHAIRPERSON'S DRAFT PROVISIONAL TEXT  
AT THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE  
OF THE STATES PARTIES TO REVIEW THE OPERATION  
OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION**

Thank you Mr Chairman,

I would like to put on record our appreciation to Ambassador I Gusti Agung Wesaka Puja of Indonesia for his leadership, hard work and dedication during the deliberations of the Open-Ended Working Group.

In our view the result of the work of the OEWG in the form of Chairperson's draft provisional text is a good base for the Review Conference.

My delegation is ready to constructively engage in negotiation of the final document in order to reach consensus. Let me briefly elaborate my delegation's general observations on the draft:

1. In all previous Review Conferences there was a political declaration adopted by consensus. So the first question is how the Conference would negotiate such a declaration?
2. In the present draft several substantial issues were overlooked, for example I could refer to the following:
  - a. General obligations and declarations related to Articles I, II and III (paragraphs 9.40 to 9.44 of the Third Review Conference) is missing in the text.
  - b. Consultations, cooperation, and fact-finding in line with Article IX of the Convention (9.104 to 9.112 of the Third Review Conference). It is essential for the Conference to tackle this issue given the very latest developments. We cannot have an agreed document without a reference to the unresolved issue of 'misuse'.
  - c. In the context of Article XIII of the Convention, the issue of the 1925 Geneva Protocol is also very important particularly in light of recent developments. This issue must be included in the final document as it was the case in paragraph 9.31 of the Third Review Conference.



- d. The draft should not move away from the Convention and agenda of the Review Conference. For instance while we have on the agenda item (vi) activities not prohibited under the Chemical Weapons Convention, there is no section on that and it seems all activities are prohibited which is the wrong impression. Instead of that, some paragraphs are included in the section on economic and technological development which is another item on our agenda. On the contrary, while we don't have any item on our agenda such as 'engagement with external partners' or 'organisational governance' (which is an economic term), or 'capacity development' they are the titles of some sections. These titles should be changed in line with the approved agenda.
3. There are also important substantive issues such the non-consensual decision of the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties, destruction and Article XI for which we have specific proposals.

Mr Chairperson, my delegation reiterates that we are ready to work with you in order to reach consensus on the final outcome. I assure you my delegation's full support.

I thank you.

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