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ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR REZA NAJAFI
DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AT THE NINETIETH SESSION
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**STATEMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN IN SUPPORT OF VENEZUELA,
NAM CHAIRPERSON**

Madam Chairperson,

We fully support Venezuela and the statement made by distinguished Ambassador of Venezuela on behalf of the Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement that are States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention and China (“NAM CWC States Parties and China”).

We categorically reject the statement made regarding the chairmanship of NAM CWC States Parties and China and putting into question the chairmanship of NAM.

The United States of America that considers itself above the law is not in a position to put into question the legitimacy of other States Parties of this Organisation. The misuse of an international organisation to pursue narrow political objectives has become the habit of the United States delegation and making such a statement in the OPCW is not surprising. This is not the first time that the United States is intervening in internal affairs of other countries by using all kinds of means militarily, economically, or even setting up coups. In 1953, the United States CIA led a coup against the democratically elected government of Iran under similar pretext, to which it later confessed and apologised, and supported a dictatorship in Iran for almost 30 year.

We believe that any internal issue should be solved through dialogue to overcome the current situation in the country without any external interference of any kind.

I thank you, Madam Chairperson.

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