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Mr. Chairman, Director General, Distinguished Colleagues, Honored Guests,

One of the most serious concerns at a time of war or conflict which happens at the international or regional level is the use of chemical weapons; unfortunately, contrary to nuclear weapons, chemical weapons potentially from technological point of view are available for many countries. The destructive impact of using chemical weapons on humans and the environment has led the world community to establish the convention for prohibition of chemical weapons. This organization is a manifestation of seriousness of humanity for prevention of repeating catastrophic incidents like the use of more than 113 tons of chemical substances during the first world war; about one million and three hundred people were victimized during the Iraqi war against Iran; and one hundred thousand civilians and military forces were wounded after bombardment of Sardash in Iran and Halabja in Iraq by the former Iraqi regime; in several cases chemical weapons had been used like Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Syria and tens of other places as well.

Despite the positive performance of the Convention, there remain some weak points.. One of major responsibility for all member states and NGOs in this regard is to strengthen Convention and remove any possible defects.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1-International efforts in the past years to confront chemical weapons comprehensively leads to this fact – that use of toxic materials must be a global taboo. This fact has changed the methods of using this type of weapons in military war into regional terrorism conflicts. Those groups who are using chemical toxins are not members of any convention and not responsible to answer to any authorities. Confronting terrorist groups who are much more hard and challenging than confronting states, and the use of chemical weapons in Syria is an exemplary case to prove this issue. Identifying these terrorist groups and their supporters, and confronting them is one of our essential and serious tasks.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished members,

2- The world has experienced bloody war and the occupation of Iraq based on false claims. The claim after destruction of that country and killing many thousands of people, proved it was a mistake. International organizations are always targeted by big powers for inserting their political intentions in order to justify their attitudes.

The method of studying claims of using chemical weapons is one of the challenging responsibilities for the Convention. Assigning several expert teams with different professionals who are interacting together, use of modern equipment, comparison of medical evidence with laboratory tests, comparison of what they found with witnesses and providing acceptable documents, using verification methods could be helpful for experts to report.

Having high numbers of medical researchers and experts in Iran who are active in this field could help to the fulfill our tasks.

3- This question should always occupy our mind – whether the international mechanisms for convention are sufficient to encounter chemical weapons?

The CWC is based on four principles. First: non-proliferation of chemical weapons (Article 1), second: destruction of existing weapons and production facilities for chemical weapons, including inspections and controls (Article 3,4,5), third: assistance and support against attack and treatment, should an attack by chemical substances occur (Article 10) and fourth: international cooperation for having chemical knowledge and industry (Article 9).

The issue of compensation of damages, is an issue that is neglected in the convention.

I as a member of the Iranian Green Peace Chemical Weapons Association and would like to invite you to strengthening the OPCW as our common effort to fight against chemical weapons.

In conclusion, I avail myself to extend my thanks and appreciation to Mr. Paul Walker, chairman of coalition of NGOs, for his valuable efforts for NGOs and in particular for the victims of chemical weapons. Also I would like to announce full readiness of our Association for ideal objectives of the OPCW.