



OPCW

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ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
ON ADDRESSING THE THREAT FROM CHEMICAL WEAPONS USE (SUBITEM 9d)
AT THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE
OF THE STATES PARTIES**

Mr Chairperson,

The Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties about one-and-a-half years ago adopted a decision with 82 votes in favour, which was literally remote from the sought-after concept of consensus in every international organisation, including the OPCW. This was an evil precedent whereby a few States Parties having support of some others attempted to bypass the Convention and add new tasks to the Organisation that require amendment of the Convention, to ensure their own political interest against other Member States. The consequence of such an erroneous action is the politicisation and polarisation of the Organisation, which presumably ought to be supportive of the Convention and its provisions. Besides, the illegitimate inclusion of “attribution” in the activities of the OPCW has incorporated unwarranted additional activities, together with the creation of unnecessary tasks and undertakings in the work of Organisation, which has led to the involvement of Technical Secretariat in a wrong direction and a change of the genuine priorities and mandate of the OPCW.

The “attribution” responsibility has not been relegated, so far, to the secretariat of other disarmament treaties and conventions. The establishment of this mechanism in this Organisation would be an unfortunate precedent. Moreover, identifying the perpetrators of a chemical weapons attack, especially in an environment in which different terrorist groups have easy access to chemical weapons and toxic chemicals are involved, would be a complicated process. Therefore, we should not be oblivious to the fact that any misjudgment will put a heavy burden of responsibility upon the shoulders of the Technical Secretariat and the Director-General and might place their impartiality and credibility under question as well.

My delegation is of the view that our Organisation should return to its real position and take steps to implement its mandate and priorities as has been accurately identified in the Convention.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.

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