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ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

**STATEMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN IN SUPPORT OF
CREDENTIALS OF THE DELEGATION OF VENEZUELA
AT THE NINETY-THIRD SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Mr. Chairperson,

My delegation categorically rejects the statements questioning the participation of the delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the Sessions and Meetings of the OPCW. The permanent representative of Venezuela has already submitted her valid credentials to the Director-General, and the credentials issued for the current delegation of Venezuela cannot be challenged on baseless grounds. The international organisations are not in a position to judge the legitimacy of the governments of the Member States. This would be a dangerous precedent in this Organisation that a few States Parties, on the basis of their own interests and views, attempt to bring their political disputes in the Sessions of the OPCW and question the legitimacy and representation of the governments of the States Parties. Continuation of such a precedent will turn the OPCW into a chaotic ambience. This would be another example of politicisation and polarisation of this Organisation, which is absolutely unacceptable, and the States Parties should avoid such inappropriate actions.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.

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