



Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran

The Hague

**Statement by the Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran in
Support of Credentials of the Delegation of Venezuela at the
Twenty-Fifth Session of the Conference of States Parties**

Mr. Chairperson,

My delegation categorically rejects the continued attempts to question the legitimate 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 only legal and legitimate permanent representation of Venezuela to the OPCW is that which is represented by its Permanent Representative H.E. Ambassador Haifa Aissami Madah and the members of her delegation. The international organizations are not in a position to judge the legitimacy of the governments of the Member States. This would be an unacceptable precedent in this Organization that a few States Parties, on the basis of their own interests and views, attempt to question the legal and valid representation of the governments of the other States Parties. Continuation of such a negative precedent will turn the OPCW into further politicization and polarization of the Organization and the States Parties should avoid such inappropriate actions.

My delegation requests that this statement be circulated as an official document of the 25th Session of the Conference of States Parties and posted on the public and external website of the OPCW.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.