The Palestinian Mission Kingdom of the Netherlands

The Hague



البعثة الفلسطينية المملكة الهولندية لاهاي

## The State of the Palestine Statement of the State of the Palestine in response to attacks made on the legitimate representation of Venezuela at the Ninety-Sixth Session of the Executive Council

9 March 2021

Mr. Chairperson,

The State of Palestine wishes reiterate that the OPCW's legal scope is limited to what is provided within the Convention. Any attempts to impose political agendas and include issues that are outside the scope of the provisions and principles enshrined in the Chemical Weapons Convention must be emphatically rejected.

The Permanent Representation of The State of Palestine reaffirms its support for the OPCW and its mandate of strengthening international security through the prevention of the use of chemistry in warfare. To this end, we urge States Parties to ensure that the fulfillment of the mandate remains the focus of the work of the organization, and that any other irrelevant matters do not detract from the fulfillment of the mandate, including challenging the legitimacy of government representations.

The State of Palestine thus reiterates its support for the current Permanent Representation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela that represents of the legitimate government of Venezuela.

The State of Palestine hereby requests that this statement be circulated as an official document of the Ninety-Sixth Session of the Executive Council and posted on the public and external website of the OPCW.



