

Statement by H.E. Ambassador Alireza Kazemi Abadi of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Agenda Item 9 entitled “Draft Annual Report of the OPCW on the Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2020” at the 97th Session of the Executive Council

Mr. Chairperson,

My delegation would like to express its concerns about the references of the “Draft Report of the OPCW on the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction in 2020” (EC-97/CRP.1 dated 17 May 2021) to illegal activities of the Investigation and Identification Team (IIT) which is the result of the unacceptable Decision of the 4th conference of States Parties (C-SS-4/DEC.3 dated 27 June 2018). My delegation does not recognize the IIT so its investigations, conclusions and reports including its first and second reports are not valid and acceptable. It is unfortunate that the draft is supposed to report on the implementation of the Convention while the mandate of the IIT i.e. the “attribution” is a task beyond the Convention and caused a lot of challenges and differences among the members of this Organization. We do not support the paragraphs in the Draft pertaining to the IIT and its reports and activities.

Thank You