## **Executive Council**



OPCW

100th Session 5 - 7 July 2022 EC-100/NAT.29 5 July 2022 ENGLISH only

## ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

## STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR ALIREZA KAZEMI ABADI PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE OPCW AT THE 100TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNDER AGENDA ITEM 5

Mr Chairperson, as this is the first time that I take the floor, please allow me to join the speakers before me to congratulate you for your assumption as Chairperson of the 100<sup>th</sup> Session of the Executive Council and assure you of my delegation's full support.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is following the ongoing conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine with grave concern and feels sympathy for victims of the conflict of any nationality. My delegation also notes that this is the second session of the Executive Council where certain allegations relating to this conflict are made by some States Parties, which in its turn have instigated a series of other mutual allegations. It is a matter of concern for us and many others that the Organisation and its policy-making organs be used or misused as a platform for exchanging unfounded or unvetted accusations for mere political purposes. No doubt that raising issues which do not directly fall in the scope of the Chemical Weapons Convention or the mandate of the Organisation, or included in the agenda of this meeting, will not serve the Organisation but will escalate tension among the States Parties and divert the Organisation from its right path.

The OPCW is of a technical nature with a well-defined mandate and should not be used as a forum for matters beyond the scope of the Convention or competency of the Organisation.

I do hope that we could return to our normal and professional routine of work in this afternoon's session and onward. Thank you.

---0---