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**Executive Council**

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**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 6(C)**

Mr Chairperson, as of today, 24 rounds of consultations have been conducted between the Declaration Assessment Team (DAT) and the Syrian Arab Republic, and my delegation notes with satisfaction that these consultations resulted in tangible progress and closure of some outstanding issues. We are thankful to both sides for their success.

It is irrefutable that Syria has repeatedly welcomed the OPCW's deployment of the DAT for the twenty-fifth round of consultations and has expressed willingness to grant them the necessary visas immediately, except for one member of the team on whom Syria has reservations. While recognising that the Syrian Arab Republic is exercising its sovereign rights, my delegation encourages both sides to resolve the issue in good faith and according to the previous practice. We believe that such a minor issue should not hamper, endanger, or bring to a standstill the whole cooperation process.

We are of the view that the high-level meeting between the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic, H.E. Faisal Mekdad, and the Director-General could be a decent and proper opportunity for both sides to address the questions of working methods, terms of reference, other pertinent matters, and the future road map of cooperation between the two sides. Thank you.

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