

## **Executive Council**

100th Session 5 – 7 July 2022

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## RUSSIAN FEDERATION

## STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE OPCW AT THE 100TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNDER AGENDA ITEM 9

While recognising the importance of the OPCW report on the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, we are nonetheless not prepared to agree with the language that goes against the Convention concerning the operation of the illegitimate Investigation and Identification Team based on decision C-SS-4/DEC.3, dated 27 June 2018, adopted at the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties and entitled "Addressing the Threat from Chemical Weapons Use". This decision was forced through in contradiction to the provisions of Article XV of the Convention; it extends beyond the scope of the authorities of the Conference and impinges upon the exclusive authorities of the United Nations Security Council. The Russian Federation disassociates itself from the following paragraphs of this draft report: paragraph 7 of the Introduction, and paragraphs 1.23, 1.24, and 1.34 – 1.42.

We request that this be reflected in the final report of the 100th Session of the Executive Council.

We have taken note of the explanation provided by the representatives of the OPCW Technical Secretariat regarding the decision against reflecting in the report the Organisation's participation in the second Conference on the Establishment of a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction (New York, 29 November – 3 December 2021). However, this approach surprises us. The OPCW has taken part in this very important event based on decision A/DEC/73/546 of the General Assembly of the United Nations and the invitation of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The report prepared by the Organisation is an official Conference document. We believe that the OPCW's participation in this event is a considerable contribution towards achieving universality of the Convention. The Russian Federation highly values the Secretariat's efforts in this regard and believes that omitting this from the draft report is a misstep.

I request that this statement be circulated as an official document of the 100th Session of the Council and published on the Catalyst platform and the OPCW website.

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