

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

**STATEMENT AT THE FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
STATES PARTIES TO REVIEW THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION
UNDER AGENDA ITEM 9(c)(iii)**

Mr Chairperson,

Destruction of chemical weapons is the main purpose and pillar of the Convention. It is unfortunate that the only possessor of the chemical weapons stockpiles, after 26 years of the implementation of the Convention and several extensions of deadlines, has not yet fulfilled the obligation of destruction of declared stockpiles. While noting the progress made in this regard since the last review conference, we firmly believe that the process must be accelerated to meet the obligations at the earliest time.

I request that this statement be circulated as an official document of this session and posted on the OPCW's public website and catalyst portal.

Thank you Mr Chairperson.