#### 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 11**

### Mr. Chairperson

The Chemical Weapons Convention has been one of the most successful international disarmament treaties, and it will remain so, if the States Parties commit to a full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all articles of the Convention, and address any problems through dialogue, mutual understanding, cooperation and consensus. The Review Conferences are unique occasions to renew commitment to the goals and purposes of the Convention and consolidate efforts to move beyond any polarization.

My delegation values the efforts of you Mr. Chairman, and those who tirelessly attempted to reach consensus on the final outcome document.

During the past 10 months, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran constructively participated in the meetings and deliberations of the Open-Ended Working Group for the preparation of the Fifth Review Conference, and extended full cooperation and flexibility for a successful conclusion of its work. While appreciating the efforts of Ambassador Lauri Kuusing, we wish the Working Group had gone into serious negotiations, so the delegations had burdened less pressure during the few days of the Conference.

It is deeply regrettable that, in spite of all efforts made in the Working Group and the in Committee of the Whole, this Review Conference could not reach consensus on its final outcome documents. Indeed, the blame for this unwarranted situation exclusively lies with those who are trying to transform the OPCW from a technical body to a political leverage by politicizing the issues at hand. The Islamic Republic of Iran invites all Member States to avoid further polarization of the OPCW and adopt a strategic approach to bridge the rifts, which is vividly far away from the goals and purposes enshrined in the Convention.

Having said that, I would like to underline the full commitment of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as the biggest victim of chemical weapons in modern history, to the goals and purposes of the CWC and reemphasize the utmost importance of universality as well as the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention.

## Mr. Chairperson,

With regard to the statement made by the representative of Ukraine, my delegation categorically rejects and strongly condemns fabricated and unsubstantiated claims about Iran's involvement in the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine, or the attribution of any unmanned aerial vehicles used in the conflicts to Iran. Such unfounded allegations, which are solely based on false flags or dubious assumptions, are nothing but a mere propaganda apparatus launched to support short-sighted political agenda. In fact, bringing up these allegations in this Conference which clearly has a different mandate is, itself, another evidence of the political motivations, which have brought the Conference to a failure.

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. Chairman.