

## **Executive Council**

102nd Session 14 – 17 March 2023 EC-102/NAT.10 14 March 2023 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 102ND SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT OF REPLY TO THE STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF CANADA

Mr Chairperson,

The Islamic Republic of Iran categorically rejects the fabricated and absurd claim of Canada in its national statement to the 102nd Session of the Executive Council, claiming obfuscation of the truth and protects the perpetrators from accountability by Iran.

Iran, as the main victim of the chemical weapons in the contemporary era, categorically condemns the use of chemical weapons, by anyone, anywhere and under any circumstances. It also supports the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention and the Organisation's well-defined mandate to achieve the noble goal of a world free of chemical weapons.

Iran's comments and views on the work of the Organisation have always been of a technical nature, but unfortunately in recent years, some countries, including Canada, have shown tendencies to take any possible opportunity to misuse the Organisation as a platform for perusing their political purposes. Undoubtedly, continuing the stubborn policy of making groundless accusations and one-sided judgements, like the one that Canada has blatantly made in its national statement, has no value but to further politicise the Organisation and undermine its technical nature.

Thank you.

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