

**STATEMENT
BY
THE DELEGATION OF
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
AT
THE 105th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
UNDER AGENDA 7(c)**

Mr. Chairperson,

The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns the use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere and under any circumstances, and strongly believes that those responsible for the use of chemical weapons must be held accountable.

My delegation welcomes the flexibility shown by Syrian Arab Republic that led to holding of the 25th and 26th round of consultations with Declaration Assessment Team (DAT). We commend the recent development that led to resolving of three outstanding issues which is the tangible result of constructive cooperation and dialogue.

It is more than a decade that Syria acceded to the Convention, and in spite of all the difficulties on its territory and security hardships, there has been considerable progress on the Syrian issue that should be taken into consideration in reports and assessments. Therefore, a continued cooperative approach would enable the parties to resolve all outstanding issues.

My delegation firmly believes the only way to resolve outstanding issues is continuing of cooperation between the Secretariat and the Syrian Arab Republic which has shown its effectiveness.

We expect a professional and respectful conduct of the briefing sessions on Syria. While the last session continued for more than three hours, it would have been understandable for all participants if the Syrian delegation could have had a few minutes for any comments. This is the practice of other international organizations.

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

Thank you.