

Right of reply
to the U.S. Unsubstantiated Allegation
Against
The I. R. Iran

Mr. Chairperson,

Distinguished Delegations,

In exercising my delegation's right of reply to the unfounded allegations made by the U.S, while categorically rejecting all baseless and unsubstantiated allegations of the United States against Iran, I would like to bring the followings to the attention of the Executive Council:

- It should be noted that any matter regarding the compliance of the States Parties with their obligations under the Convention shall be addressed through the relevant provisions of the Convention including Article IX. The OPCW is the sole competent authority to deal with the verification and compliance issues. In the past, Iran and the U.S have mutually exchanged questions and clarification request for which, the U.S never responded to Iran's clarification on its chemical weapons.

- During the 8-year imposed war by Saddam's regime on Iran, the United States as a permanent member of the UN Security Council turned a blind eye to the extensive and brutal use of chemical weapons against Iran, in particular civilians. The U.S. provided technical, financial, material and diplomatic supports to the chemical weapons program of Saddam Hussein regime. Thus, the US must be held accountable for complicity of such war crimes.

- During the entire period of imposed war on Iran, a wide range of chemical agents have been massively used against Iranian army in the battlefield and civilians in the residential areas. Despite the scientific capabilities to develop and use of chemical weapons, and in the absence of a legally binding instrument banning the use of chemical weapons, due to the moral and religious principles, Iran refrain from using chemical weapons in retaliation to the horrific chemical attacks by Iraq. Since the claim by the United States that Iran using pharmaceutical-based agents seems a joke and no more than an irrational justification on imposing sanctions on pharmaceutical items needed for the treatment of Iranian Chemical Weapons' victims and its contributions to ongoing Israeli genocide in Gaza.
- It should be emphasized that for decades, the Islamic Republic of Iran as the major victim of terrorism, has been at the forefront of the fight against terrorism, particularly against ISIS and other UN-designated terrorist groups. As the former U.S. President explicitly announced, the United States was the founder of the ISIS; a terrorist groups which based on the conclusion of the Fact Finding Mission's report has repeatedly used chemical weapons in Syria. Therefore, who is sponsoring international terrorism, Iran who fought and defeated terrorism in Iraq and Syria or the United State, the one who created and supported them!?
- The Islamic Republic of Iran as the main victim of chemical weapons in contemporary era and founder of the CWC, reaffirms its unwavering commitments to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestation and will spare no effort to work with the international community and the OPCW towards a world free from chemical weapons.

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

Thank you.