

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF
IRAN AT THE 30th SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE STATES
PARTIES IN EXERCISE OF RIGHT OF REPLY TO THE STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE US,
AGENDA ITEM 12,**

Mr. Chairman,

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Asia Group for its confidence in Iran's election to the Executive Council for the term 2026–2028. Iran is ready to cooperate with all members of the Executive Council in fulfilling the mandate of this very important body of the OPCW.

According to the Convention, the decision on Executive Council membership is the prerogative of regional groups and the Islamic Republic of Iran was unanimously designated by the Asia Group. Therefore, this matter is entirely unrelated to the views or interventions of the United States delegation, either in substance or procedure.

As the biggest victim of chemical weapons in contemporary history, which Saddam's regime committed against the Iranian people with the support of the United States by arming the former Iraqi regime with chemical weapons, Iran meets all the requirements stipulated in the Convention for membership in the Executive Council.

Attempts to politicize this Organization—an approach that has unfortunately become customary for the United States delegation—undermine the integrity of the Convention and the collective efforts of all Member States.

By manipulating and questioning the decision made by consensus in regional groups and politicizing issues on the agenda, the United States is weakening and undermining the credibility of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

Iran has always been in full compliance with its obligations under the Convention, and its activities have always been verified and approved in all inspections made by the Organization.

Moreover, the US support of UN-designated terrorist groups, such as Daesh/ISIS in the Middle East, in flagrant violation of the UN Charter, international law, and the pertinent Security Council resolutions, is clear evidence of how the United States is the principal sponsor of terrorism.

Despite the deliberate pressure exerted by the U.S., Iran remains steadfast in its commitment to the object and purposes of the CWC. We will continue to spare no effort in defending the integrity of the Convention.

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

Thank you.