



*Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

**State of Israel – Right of Reply – General Debate**

Thank you chair,

In reaction to statements by Iran, the Palestinians and others groups of delegations. We reject the false and politically motivated accusations. This is an attempt, through factual and legal fallacies, to delegitimize Israel's right and obligation to defend itself from terrorists and Member States openly committed to its destruction. This will not work. Israel will stand strong and defend itself.

As for Iran, we listened to the Foreign Minister's speech. He mentioned the trauma of his country, as a past victim of Weapons of Mass Destruction.

It is such a shame that instead of learning from their own suffering, and becoming a world leader in peace and stability, they chose to become a major violator of their WMD obligations, CWC included, not to mention the world's leading global proliferator and sponsor of terrorism.

Chair,

Over the years Iran has pursued a clear operational plan for the Annihilation of Israel. The regime built up its conventional military capabilities, armed and directed terrorist proxies, and improved its unconventional capabilities – nuclear, chemical and other unconventional weapons programs in blatant violation of international norms.

Iran continues to hide behind claims that all its unconventional programs are meant for peaceful purposes. The international community cannot allow it to frame its malicious intents under the guise of adherence to international conventions.

It is ironic that Iran, as a member and vice chair of the Executive Council, continues to abuse the procedures and resources of the organization in order to push hypothetical claims that hide the true nature of its non-compliance with the convention.

Chair, the State of Israel remains fully committed to complying with international law. This is notwithstanding the fact that the other parties to the conflict cynically violate these rules, deliberately and systematically.

Specifically, regarding tear-gas, Israel uses tear-gas for law enforcement, in particular to disperse violent riots, by specifically-trained forces and under strict professional directives which intend to minimize potential harm to affected individuals. Israel does so in full compliance with its obligations under international law.

Thank you Mr. Chair.