

**The Palestinian Mission**  
**Kingdom of the Netherlands**

The Hague



البعثة الفلسطينية  
المملكة الهولندية  
لاهاي

**STATE OF PALESTINE**  
**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE STATE OF PALESTINE**  
**TO THE OPCW AT THE THRITIETH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE**  
**OF THE STATES PARTIES ON AGENDA IETEM SIX APPOINTMENT**  
**OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

**Chairperson,**

The State of Palestine requested the floor to express its regret regarding the intervention made by the US delegation concerning its nomination to the Credentials Committee. In this regard we wish to emphasize the following:

First, the State of Palestine is a State Party to the Chemical Weapons Convention and a full member of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). Therefore, it has the inherent and legal right to be nominated for any position within the OPCW's bodies and committees, including the Credentials Committee. This right is guaranteed to all States Parties without exception. It is not up to the US or any other state to determine the rights Palestine enjoys in this regard, including its candidacy to the credentials committee, or other positions as permitted by the convention.

Second, Palestine acceded to the CWC reflect its commitment to prohibition of development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons. Here we wish to remind that this is a multilateral organization, governed by the Convention. It cannot be subject to any considerations or bilateral relations between states and political issues certainly have no place here. The framework governing our joint work is solely the Convention, not political considerations external to the Organization.

Third, the Asian Group nominated the State of Palestine for membership in the Credentials Committee, in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical distribution and the procedures followed within the Organization. Accordingly, the State of Palestine believes that respecting the decision of the Asian Group is an obligation incumbent upon all delegations, in accordance with the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Finally, The State of Palestine affirms its full commitment to constructive work and cooperation that enhances the Organization's effectiveness and preserves its important role.

Thank you

- *We request that this statement be adopted as an official document of the proceedings of this conference, and that it be published on the Organization's public website and on the Catalyst platform.*