

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR HADI FARAJVAND  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN  
TO THE OPCW AT THE 111<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
UNDER AGENDA ITEM 5**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Mr. Chairperson,  
Mr. Director-General,  
Distinguished delegates,

At the outset, I would like to express my full support and commitment to ensuring the success of this session. I also wish to extend our gratitude to the Director General and the Technical Secretariat for their reports and efforts.

It is with deep regret that on February 28th, the United States and the aggressive Israeli regime carried out extensive attacks against military and non-military targets in Iran. These attacks once again took place in the midst of serious negotiations over Iran's peaceful nuclear program, while Iran had placed generous proposals on the table and demonstrated significant flexibility and compromise.

In these attacks, in addition to the assassination of the Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran and other civilian and military officials, industrial facilities—including my country's chemical and petrochemical facilities—were targeted and suffered extensive damage.

It constitutes a clear violation of international law, an infringement upon Iran's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and also a major blow to the multilateralism, as well as an undermining of the credibility of international organizations and institutions, including the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

Targeting public places—from universities and schools to governmental offices and hospitals—while they were filled with employees, students, and ordinary citizens, amounts to a violation of human rights and the most fundamental humanitarian principles. The extent of the brutality of the United States and the Israeli regime

reached such a level that, in just one elementary school, 170 students aged 7 -12 were killed. So far, 174 cities have been affected and over 3000 attacks have been recorded, resulting in more than 1,500 civilian deaths and over 10,000 injuries. These figures are increasing over time.

The state terrorism of the United States and the Israeli regime has ushered the world into an unprecedented era of disregard for international law and humanitarian principles, placing the world on the brink of falling into another cycle of violence and extremism—one that brings nothing but instability and the endangerment of innocent human lives.

Iran, throughout its over seven thousand years of civilization and three thousand years of written history - not seventy or two hundred years —has consistently faced invasions and assaults by enemies from both the East and the West. Iran, through the determination of its men and women and their ironic will, has always defeated aggressors and continued with pride its path of growth and progress. This time will be no different; The aggressors will learn a lesson, never forget.

**Chair,**

The deliberate attacks on energy infrastructure and fuel depots in the vicinity of densely populated areas have resulted in the release of toxic and hazardous substances, posing a grave threat to human health and the environment, even beyond national borders. The subsequent dark, polluted rainfall reported in Tehran and other areas near the damaged facilities has been an early indication of the gravity of the situation. Such attacks clearly violate the purpose and objectives of the Chemical Weapons Convention and may amount to a crime against humanity.

In this regard, once again, my delegation highlights the importance of the suggestion that was made at the 67th extraordinary meeting of the Executive Council; while the Convention bans the use of chemical weapons and riot control agents as a method of warfare, it does not clearly prohibit attacks on chemical facilities intended to harm

civilians. Strikes on facilities in the vicinity of populated areas could cause damage even greater than using chemical weapons. States Parties should prioritize establishing clear norms and binding rules to prohibit such attacks in future conflicts.

I would kindly ask you to consider this statement as an official document of this session and publish it on the external server and the website of the OPCW.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.