## **STATEMENT**

## BY

## THE DELEGATION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN IN EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT OF REPLY TO THE U.S. UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATION AGAINST The I. R. IRAN

## Mr. Chairperson,

I am compelled to take the floor in exercise of the right of reply. While categorically rejecting all baseless and unsubstantiated allegations of the United States against Iran, I would like to bring to the attention of this august body the following:

- -Iran's chemical activities and facilities have been under the verification regime of the Convention and the peacefulness of activities has been confirmed by the TS in hundreds of inspections which have been carried out.
- -The representative of the United States is setting a deplorable precedent making accusations without providing supporting evidence. This approach undermines the spirit of multilateralism and weakens the legitimacy of international non-proliferation regimes, in particular the CWC.
- The historical record of the United States in the development and use of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) is deeply concerning. It remains the only state to have used nuclear weapons in conflict. Credible documentation shows that many of the chemical weapon precursors used by the former Iraqi regime of Saddam were produced and exported by American companies, with authorization and oversight from the U.S. government.
- Additionally, the United States has an ongoing research and development program on "chemical non-lethal agents" and has weaponized it, too.

- 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 credibility and the integrity of the Convention.
- 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.