

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR HADI FARAJVAND
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE OPCW
AT THE 110TH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
UNDER AGENDA ITEM 5**

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Mr. Chairperson,

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 in preparing this session.

My delegation associates itself with the statement delivered by Uganda, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and China.

Mr. Chairperson,

For almost two years, the international community has faced a renewed wave of heinous crimes and violations of international law by the Israeli regime. Since October 2023, innocent civilians in Gaza have endured a brutal and inhumane act of aggression that has claimed the lives of over 70,000 people.

The impunity and sustained military and political support have emboldened the Israeli regime to expand its aggression toward other nations in the region, including Lebanon, Syria, Iran, and Qatar.

Mr. Chairperson,

During the unprovoked and premeditated act of aggression and terrorism against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Israeli regime targeted certain chemical

industries, including Shahid Meysami Group, risking the release of toxic materials.

Shahid Meysami Group is tasked with producing and supplying chemical defence equipment, in full compliance with the Convention and our international obligations. The complex does not fall under Article 6 of the Convention. However, some of its activities have been reported annually under article 10, paragraph 4, and some of its products have been exported to a number of States Parties to the CWC, in accordance with article 10, paragraph 3 of the Convention. The attacks have inflicted serious damages to the buildings and equipment of the Group and have disrupted the production of defence items such as antidotes and decontamination materials.

The attacks have also impacted the Quality Control and Synthesis Laboratory, the Schedule 1 facility of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the OPCW designated laboratory, and the Defence Chemical Research Laboratory (DCRL), resulting in disruption of their regular operations.

Although the attack on the facility did not result in the release of toxic materials, it could have been disastrous if the site where the highly toxic materials were stored had been destroyed.

Mr. Chairperson,

The Israeli regime has not acceded to any WMD disarmament and non-proliferation treaty, including the CWC. It remains the sole possessor of WMDs in the region and constitutes the primary obstacle to establishing a WMD-free zone in the Middle East. The regime's recent barbaric war crimes, including the reported use of toxic chemicals against civilians and residential areas, once again underscore the grave threat posed by its WMD arsenal and highlight the urgent responsibility of the international community to address this threat.

Mr. Chairperson,

All States Parties are entitled to fully enjoy the intended benefits of adhering to the Convention. The policy of blockade and restriction is contrary to the letter and spirit of the Convention. The imposition of illegal sanctions that obstruct the provision of medicine and medical supplies for the treatment of chemical weapons victims, is also a serious violation of human rights. Taking concrete measures to address the needs of the victims of chemical weapons lies within the responsibilities of the Organisation and the States Parties.

Mr. Chairperson

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to you for your dedicated efforts in conducting eight rounds of straw polls to facilitate the election of the next Director-General of the Organization. We believe that these efforts should continue until a consensus is achieved on a single candidate to be nominated for consideration by the forthcoming Conference of States Parties. My delegation also wishes to express its gratitude to those candidates who, in the spirit of cooperation, withdrew from the process to help the Executive Council move closer to consensus in this regard.

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

I thank you Mr. Chairperson.