



*Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

**State of Israel - Right of Reply - GD**

Mr. Chairperson, we are compelled to react to some of the ludicrous accusations against Israel we heard today and yesterday. Due to the immensely high volume of lies, we will attempt to address just their core essence and not each and every ridiculous statement.

Chair, to be clear - we categorically reject all of the false accusations raised by some delegations, including Iran and the Palestinians, as well as the detached-from-reality NAM. These statements included diverse lies and falsehoods, in an attempt to delegitimize Israel's right and obligation to defend itself from terrorists and Member States that seek its annihilation. This will not work. Israel will stand strong and defend itself.

Chair, the lies that were spread here today have another goal – to divert attention away from the renewing and rebuilding of the chemical weapons project in Syria, as well as the fact that Syria indeed used chemical weapons against its own people.

In addition, the lies also seek to shift attention away from the risk of transfer of chemical weapons to terrorist groups by Iran, and the risks this poses on all of us.

Regarding the allegations brought forth about White Phosphorous, a clear response from the OPCW was given on that matter. To continue raising these baseless accusations is an abuse of the Convention for political purposes.

Nevertheless, the facts do matter, so let me clearly state that The State of Israel is committed to complying with international law when conducting its military operations. Israel continues to adhere the rules of LOAC - Law of armed conflict, also in the context of the ongoing war. This is notwithstanding the fact that the other parties to the conflict cynically violate these rules deliberately and systematically.

Thank you