## **STATEMENT**

## BY

## THE DELEGATION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN AT THE 107th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UNDER AGENDA ITEM 6(g)

Mr. Chairperson,

The Islamic Republic of Iran condemns in the strongest possible terms the use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere, and under any circumstances. The Islamic Republic of Iran as a major victim of systematic use of chemical weapons has always supported the mandate of the Organisation to achieve the object and purpose of the Convention.

In a comprehensive address of the threat posed by the use of chemical weapons, three main factors should be considered.

- The use of chemical weapons by terrorist groups has been reported by the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW. The acquisition of CWs development capabilities, access to chemical agents and technologies could not be achieved without substantial external resources and assistance that requires thorough investigation in the framework of the CWC verification regime. The perpetrators, sponsors, organizers and anyone involved in the acquisition, transfer and use of chemical weapons by ISIS shall be held accountable.

- Serious concerns exist on remaining non-parties to the Convention, especially those with chemical weapons programs that are not bound by the provisions of the Convention as well as other international arms control and disarmament regulations.

- As we address the threat posed by the use of chemical weapons, it is crucial to avoid being misled by the creation of mechanisms that exceed the convention's mandate. Misinformation propagated by certain States can undermine the role of the OPCW in confronting this threat.

I request that this statement be considered as an official document of this session and posted on the OPCW catalyst and public website.

Thank you.