

Islamic Republic of I R A N

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

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Statement by
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Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran
before the Third Committee of the 67 Session of the GA
On Agenda item 28 :

A) Advancement of women &
b) implementation of the outcome of the fourth world conferences on women
and of the twenty third special session of the General Assembly
New York, 16 October 2012

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Mr. Chairman,

Since 1995, the Beijing Process has set the foundations of a new cycle of international struggles in regard to the issue of "women". Today's world bears witness the daily emergence of new changes which profoundly impacts on the empowerment of women. These new developments signify the important role of this Committee in identifying and examining the new challenges faced by men and women of our era such as the impact of the economic crisis, foreign military intervention and occupation, targeted unilateral economic sanctions against independent nations, constantly threatening of other nations to military aggression, as well as lack of global justice and spirituality.

Mr. Chairman,

The recognition of the important role of the family institution is certainly imperative for the promoting dignity of women and the realization of their empowerment in a society. It is from this vantage point that my delegation believes that in defining the principles and objectives of the UN-Women on the empowerment of women, the priorities must be placed on a family based approach and respect for the divine values; there should also be special attention to the national, cultural and religious particularities of each and every nations, as they are unique legacies of humanity.

To this vein, and to strengthen and consolidate the valuable institution of family, based on Article 10 of the Iranian Constitution, the High Level National Headquarter of the Family has been established under the supervision of the President and membership of eight Ministers.

Mr. Chairman,

The Islamic Republic of Iran recently hosted the 16 Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement entitled *Lasting Peace through Joint Global Governance*. Through the Final Document of the Summit, the Heads of State and Government reiterated the commitment of the Movement to the implementation of outcome document of the Fourth World Conference on Women and its five - years review. The Summit also expressed its resolve to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girl child especially in situations of armed conflict and foreign occupation.

The Summit furthermore underscored the validity and relevance of the Movement's principle positions concerning the institutional reform of the UN and stressed that the purpose of the reform, including on the issue of gender, is to make the UN development system more efficient and effective in the support of the developing countries to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, on the basis of their national development strategies.

Likewise, the Summit recognized the central and coordinating role of the UN Women in cooperation with other relevant UN entities to promote gender equality and empowerment of women within the UN system. The Summit reiterated the request to the Executive Director of UN Women to pay special attention to the situation of women living under foreign occupation and their suffering by, inter alia, appointing a focal point to address their situations in full conformity with the international law including international humanitarian law and human rights law.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation takes note of the report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children transmitted by the Secretary General contained in document A/ 67/261, we are of the view that the States' obligations to prevent and combat human trafficking remains as a fundamental starting point. Today, the persistence, growth and prevalence of trafficking in women and girls in north west hemisphere have raised serious concerns for all nations. In this regard, we encourage countries of the main destination of trafficking in person, to step up their efforts in order to combat and prevent trafficking and to provide victims with protection.

In our point of view, preventive approach should be recognized as a core component of any strategy for putting an end to the violence against women. In order to address this, the Islamic Republic of Iran has stepped up its efforts focusing on strengthening national legal and policy framework as well as awareness raising and advocacy, through increasingly engaging with a wide range of actors. Accordingly, a task force is established under the supervision of Center for Women and Family and Judiciary Branch, which is mandated to evaluate the drafting of a new bill against domestic violence.

Mr. Chairman,

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran considers women issues as a priority, which still needs to be mainstreamed across all sectors and policy processes, though continuous efforts are in progress for the effective incorporation of gender perspectives into national development policies. In this regard, a gender perspective has been developed in budgeting as an effective tool to ensure that adequate resources are allocated for the achievement of women empowerment, developing their capacities and expertise in all ministries, and strengthening accountability, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, as well as ensuring sufficient human and financial resources, while promoting the participation of civil society in the national development planning process.

In today's Iran, women are representing as one of the best role model in the fields of science, education, health and medical, economic, trade, and production. Currently, four ladies including one Minister and two Vice -Presidents are serving as members of the Cabinet. I am proud to announce that while the Islamic Republic of Iran stands out in the scientific areas within the region, the Vice -President for the Science and Technology is lady ,who is also Head the National Elite Foundation aiming to support scientists, including women, in the areas of research and technology.

Mr. Chairman, allow me to conclude with the words of our Supreme Leader that *"life consistency in the world depends on both men and women alike. Women are naturally responsible for the greatest works of creation. The principle works of creation are in the hands of women. Today, the Iranian women can enter the field of science and climb the science ladder while preserving the religion, chastity, dignity, grace, personality and reverence of a typical Muslim women."*

Thank You