

In the Name of the Most High



Statement by

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To the United Nations

At the Forty Sixth Session of

The Commission on Population and Development

Item 4- General Debate

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In the Name of God

The Compassionate, The Merciful

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset I would like to congratulate you and the bureau members for being elected to lead the 46th session of the Commission on Population and Development. I would like also to thank the Secretary-General for his reports.

Recognizing the significant link between migration and development, I would like to highlight the importance of the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, which will be held during the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly. I would like also to stress on the importance of the discussion on the overall theme of “Identifying concrete measures to strengthen coherence and cooperation at all levels, with a view to enhancing the benefits of international migration for migrants and countries alike and its important links to development, while reducing its negative implications.

My delegation would also like to take note of the report by the Secretary General, which, among other things, states that migration has increased in volume, scope, complexity and impact since the adoption of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, and it is an intrinsic feature of a globalizing world in which economic, social, demographic, political and environmental factors all play an important role.

Mr. Chairman,

*The Islamic Republic of Iran urges* all member states, the United Nations system and other relevant organizations to take further effective measures and actions to address the challenges faced by all migrants in vulnerable situations, especially those who had to migrate because of foreign occupation and armed conflict; and *calls upon* all member states to address the root causes of this situation.

We believe that the international community should enforce and strengthen effective measures to prevent, combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons, to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect the victims, in particular women, girls and children subjected to forced labour, sexual or commercial exploitation, violence or sexual abuse.

Additionally, we also *strongly condemn* the manifestations and acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, namely religious intolerance against migrants especially muslim migrants and emphasize that these heinous manifestations and acts must be eradicated, inter alia, through combating impunity for the perpetrators.

My delegation is, furthermore, of the opinion that the negative impact of global financial crises on the life of migrants should be mitigated through appropriate national mechanisms and international cooperation.

Mr. Chairman,

The new trends in migration should be considered by the international community in a way to be beneficial to the future world of aged population with aged economies. There should be a holistic and balanced approach towards migrations policies at the international and national levels of decision making.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has established the High Council of Iranian Abroad in the Presidential office that offers services to Iranian migrants who are mostly highly educated and skilled and play an important role in the receiving communities all over the world.

We urge destination states to avoid imposing any limitations on the contacts between migrants and their states of origin. This is specially important with regard to those who are highly educated and skilled migrants. The continued contact between them and their states of origin could contribute to the transfer of knowledge of skills and accelerate the development of developing countries.

We are also of the opinion that remittance flows constitute one of the important aspects of international migration and in some developed countries they face barriers and challenges based on unilateral and unfair measures which needs to be effectively addressed at the national and international levels.

In conclusion Mr. Chairman,

The Islamic Republic of Iran, remains cooperative with all states and the United Nations system and other relevant organizations especially through UNFPA office and IOM office in Tehran to meet the challenges of migration as well as making migration an opportunity for creating a better world for all in the future.

I thank you Mr. Chair.