



# **ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
JAURÈSGASSE 3, 1030 VIENNA

## **Statement**

by

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**Resident Representative to the IAEA**

before

**IAEA Board of Governors**

on

**Verification and Monitoring in the Islamic Republic of Iran in  
Light of United Nations Security Council resolution 2231 (2015)**

22 November 2018

*In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful*

*Please, check against delivery*

**Madam Chairperson,**

**Mr. Director General,**

**Excellencies,**

**Dear Colleagues,**

Thank you for giving me the floor; and, since this is the first time I am taking the floor after your election to preside over the work of the Board, let me congratulate you on this election and assure you of the full cooperation of my delegation during your tenure. Let me also express our delightfulness that the Director General Amano is back to Vienna with a full recovery and we are looking forward to continue our work with him.

Since the focus of this Agenda Item is about Iran, please allow me to indulge myself a bit more with respect to the length of my statement.

Allow me to begin by expressing my delegation's appreciation to the Director General and his team in the Secretariat for their efforts with regard to the verification measures related to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in the Islamic Republic of Iran. It is, indeed, heartening to see such an overwhelming support for the continuation of the implementation of the JCPOA by all sides, despite the unilateral withdrawal of a party to the deal, who is despotically and arrogantly exerting pressure on others to follow suit and back down on their commitments under the UNSC Resolution, not to name under the very DEAL; therefore, I would like to seize the opportunity and appreciate them for their invaluable continued support.

**Madam Chairperson,**

The recent Director General Report (GOV/2018/47, dated 12 November 2018) on the verification of the implementation of the JCPOA in the Islamic Republic of Iran, reads (and I quote) "Since 16 January 2016 (JCPOA Implementation Day), the Agency has verified and monitored Iran's implementation of its nuclear-related commitments in accordance with the modalities set out in the JCPOA, consistent with the Agency's standard safeguards practices, and in an impartial and objective manner." (Unquote)

This is the Thirteenth quarterly report of the Director General since then, which confirms Iran's compliance with the nuclear deal. It also confirms that (and I quote) "the Agency has continued to evaluate Iran's declarations under the Additional Protocol, and has

conducted complementary accesses under the Additional Protocol to all the sites and locations in Iran which it needed to visit” (Unquote).

It further reaffirms, time and again, that timely and proactive cooperation by Iran in providing such access, is facilitating implementation of the Additional Protocol and enhances confidence.

These are clear indications of utmost transparency in Iran’s nuclear program.

Needless to say that, the report of the Director General presented to us in this meeting, and of course other 12 previous meetings, is entitled “Verification and Monitoring in the Islamic Republic of Iran in Light of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015)”. The Security Council in this resolution, that was adopted unanimously, called upon all Member States, regional organizations and international organizations to support the implementation of the JCPOA and to refrain from actions that undermine it.

Also, much has been said that the JCPOA is multilateral in terms of participation and bilateral in terms of commitments, and its scope, provisions and timeframes are based on a delicate, negotiated and multilaterally-accepted balance.

However, in humiliation to all international community, the United States’ most recent illegal and unilateral acts and sanctions brazenly and boldly disregard the Security Council resolution 2231(2015). The world is witnessing a very unique phenomenon, **Madam Chair**, the United States not only blatantly defies the Security Council resolution 2231 (2015), but also audaciously and preposterously coerces other States to follow suit. These sanctions as well as their previous reckless acts are specifically designed “to directly and adversely affect economic relations with Iran” by intimidating third parties and pressuring other States to abide by their political aspirations.

Those sanctions and pressures are illegal and run counter to the well-established principles as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and as accepted by the community of nations such as the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in internal affairs of Member States and freedom of international trade and navigation.

The Islamic Republic of Iran believes that the principles of prohibition of threat or use of force in the international relations of States and peaceful settlement of disputes should constitute the cornerstone of the multilateralism. No State or group of States has the authority to deprive other States of their legal rights for political considerations.

**Madam Chairperson,**

It should also be recalled that the United States' unilateral coercive measures are also contrary to the provisional measures that were ordered unanimously by the International Court of Justice, including the judge with American nationality, on 3 October 2018 (S/2018/899). The implementation of recent set of sanctions by the United States on 5 November 2018 would certainly lay in the scope of prohibited acts with an aggravating effect and would be categorized as illegal wrongful acts contrary to the Court's dictum. It shall be recalled that the United States, as the party imposing unilateral sanctions against Iran, is under a mandatory obligation to refrain from any action that might aggravate or extend the dispute before the Court. Feeling free to break its commitments and to disavow its actions while preaching and policing the others, is not unique in the US behavior.

Undoubtedly, sanctions always hurt ordinary people, but sanctions seldom change policy, and that has been the problem with US sanctions all the time. They do not take people back to the negotiating table. In fact, they strengthen the resolve of great Iranian Nation to resist. We will not only survive, as we have sustained in the past 7000 years – we will thrive too.

**Madam Chairperson,**

The unlawful actions by the US have rendered many essential provisions of the JCPOA void of any effect and destroyed the delicate balance of commitments between two sides. It has not only persistently violated the terms of this agreement, but also, inter alia, by sending delegations to different States and even foreign companies, threat them by either to comply with its unlawful unilateral policies against my country, or will be faced with its coercive punitive measures. The irresponsible conduct of the United States necessitates a collective response by the international community in order to uphold the rule of law, to prevent undermining diplomacy and to protect multilateralism.

While Iran appreciates the strong support to the deal expressed by the overwhelming majority of Member States, it should be noted that if JCPOA is to survive, appropriate practical measures should be implemented to ensure that the JCPOA is a win-win solution. That is to say that, Iran acknowledges the EU/EU3 positions on the JCOPA, but firmly believes that the time is of the essence and concrete measures should be done swiftly to ensure the economic benefits of Iran as stipulated in the JCPOA. It should be stressed that in case of any failure to remedy the situation, Iran has its own options under the terms of the JCPOA and will make the appropriate decisions on the basis of its national interests.

As President Dr. Rouhani said in this year's United Nations General Assembly "In our current talks with the remaining JCPOA participants, we have emphasized that safeguarding the long-term interests of the Iranian people is paramount to us. If these interests can still be secured despite the United States' exit from the accord, we will remain in the deal; otherwise, we will pursue a different course of action. Our logic is simple and straightforward: Either all parties to the deal will benefit, or none will. Silence in the face of open U.S. bullying of other countries to cut economic and trade relations with Iran, in blatant contravention of the established rules of international law, is simply not acceptable, and not an option for us".

To conclude, I would like to reiterate that the nuclear deal is the outcome of years of intensive bilateral and multilateral negotiations overwhelmingly applauded by the international community and endorsed by the Security Council as a part of Resolution 2231. It will be a great shame if the achievement of 12 years of multilateral diplomacy would be shattered by irresponsible behavior and unilateral action of one State.

## **Reactions to Some Allegations**

**Madam Chairperson,**

With regard to some unsubstantiated, unfounded and irrelevant statements by very few delegations, my delegation expresses its deep regret on attempts to derail this august body from its main responsibility.

Madam Chair! It is a legitimate expectation that while a State is diverting from the Agenda Item, the Chair would ask that delegation to come back to the subject matter of discussion. In this context, I would also like to take this opportunity to use the right of reply and make the following points.

Talking about regional intervention, terrorism and destructive behavior, one should compile a modest list of activities by the KSA and UAE in the region in recent years. Let me go over a few of them;

- Founding and funding many religious seminaries, propagating Wahhabis, which is theologically the father of all extremists in the past and contemporary era;
- Creating Al-Qaeda, the famous group who were the one behind the 9/11;
- Creating a militia group which turned out later to become the ISIS;
- Imposing three years of war on the people of Yemen, leading to devastating and heart-rending situation there;

The problems in Yemen are the results of Saudi's aggression and betrayal of those belonging to the previous regime in Yemen who chose to stay against their people, rather than to resist against the foreign invaders.

- Dispatching a group of state terrorists to another country to brutally slaughter a citizen of their own. In this case, the Saudis have, of course, had a civilizational improvement, as they recently changed their tool of choice from sword to saw;

We understand that in encountering failed ventures by these countries on many fronts in the region, they are desperately trying to distract the international community from realities on the ground.

**Madam Chairperson,**

In reaction to baseless allegations made by the delegation of the US, it is noteworthy that the JCPOA is an agreement with a specific focus area, which covers only the nuclear issue. Destructive statements by the U.S. and its few failed allies against the deal, runs counter to the support for the implementation and preservation of the JCPOA by the

overwhelming majority of the member States of the IAEA present in this room who have also recognized the significance of the JCPOA as setting an example for the success of multilateralism.

I do not want to teach or preach here on international relations; however, let me address a few instances which might lead us to a common understanding about the true nature of the US behavior throughout the world:

- 1) It is the US who has the nuclear weapons, under the pretext of an insurance for its national security, used it, and is threatening to use it as a warfare;
- 2) It is the US who has been a long-standing obstacle in the establishment of a region free of nuclear weapons in the Middle East by granting a blanket support to the Israeli regime;
- 3) It is the US who created and supported the radicals and terrorists in the Middle East;
- 4) It is the US who imposed utmost unilateral sanctions against others as a means of political extortions;
- 5) It is the US who invaded a number of countries in all corners of the world simply for political purposes;
- 6) It is the US who overthrew a number of political systems throughout the world through direct or indirect interventions;
- 7) It is the US who is by far the highest arms supplier to different volatile regions, especially with dictators at the expense of sacrificing its so-called values;
- 8) It is the US who has hundreds of military bases throughout the world, including by deploying tactical nuclear weapons;
- 9) It is the US who has military presence in the Persian Gulf region, thousands of miles away from its mainland, provoking tensions and causing instability.

These are all a slight glimpse of our real life, while on the other side of the story, Iran has never sought to acquire WMDs, has been the victim of the use of such weapons, has never attacked a country in the whole life-time of the US existence; is a main driver of stabilization in the region; has been the victim of state and non-state terrorism, and is at the forefront of combatting terrorism, just to name few.

**Madam Chairperson,**

The US delegation referred to one sentence in the report of the Director General regarding timely and proactive cooperation with the Agency, and interpreted wishfully that sentence, while the representative of the US was present in the technical briefing meeting on

15 November, when the Deputy Director General, Mr. Aparo, clarified on that issue by saying that Iran is facilitating timely and proactive cooperation with the Agency. It seems that the representative of the US has not been briefed by her colleagues on this issue.

**Madam Chairperson,**

I would also like to put on record my delegation's reaction to the fabricated and misleading information presented by the delegates of the Israeli Regime and the US.

Needless to say that, the IAEA Director General has informed 13 times, so far, the Board of Governors that the nuclear-related commitments undertaken by Iran under the JCPOA are being implemented fully.

It is decades that we are witnessing these baseless allegations to disrupt professional work of this august body, even now that the IAEA confirmed repeatedly peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear activities and reaffirmed the fact that Iran's activities are under full surveillance of the IAEA safeguards, and remain peaceful.

In the past, some of these baseless allegations were compiled as so-called PMD. To address this issue comprehensively, a *Road-map for the clarification of past and present outstanding issues regarding Iran's nuclear programme*, was concluded between the IAEA and Iran in July 2014. As a result, considering the extensive work and cooperation between Iran and the IAEA, the IAEA Board of Governors, on 15 December 2015, considered the Director General's Final Assessment on this and adopted a resolution, closing this issue. In that report, the Agency clearly expressed that it has neither credible indications of activities in Iran relevant to the development of a nuclear explosive device, nor has the Agency found any credible indications of the diversion of nuclear material in connection with the possible military dimensions to Iran's nuclear programme.

As the IAEA Director General, H.E. Yukiya Amano said after unfounded allegations by the Regime's Prime Minister, the IAEA has carried out complementary access inspections, which are often at short notice, at all locations in Iran it has needed to visit, and that the agency sends inspectors to sites and locations only when needed. The Director General also stressed that the agency does not take any information at face value, and that the agency's independence in relation to the implementation of verification activities is of paramount importance for its credibility.

Furthermore, in his latest report to the BoG, the Director General has confirmed time and again that the Agency has continued to evaluate Iran's declarations under the Additional

Protocol, and has conducted complementary accesses under the Additional Protocol to all the sites and locations in Iran which it needed to visit.

Once again, I would like to reiterate that the flagrant allegations made by the delegate of Israeli regime in this meeting evidently are outrageous, in an attempt mainly to disguise horrible record of this regime in its noncompliance to all international norms and standards in the realm of non-proliferation, as they openly developed nuclear weapons, are not member to any Weapons of Mass Destruction instrument, and their nuclear activities are not under IAEA safeguards.

We are of the firm belief **Madam Chairperson**, that by these senseless efforts, this regime cannot masquerade its nuclear weapon program, which is a real threat to the regional and international peace and security.

**Thank you Madam Chairperson.**