

**Reply by the Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran  
To the allegations made on the Iranian peaceful nuclear program  
At the 68<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly  
New York, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013**

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*In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful*

*Mr. President,*

I would like to make the following points regarding allegations made today and during the general debate of the General Assembly against the Iranian nuclear program:

The Islamic Republic of Iran has an inalienable right to all aspects of peaceful nuclear energy and is fully committed to its non-proliferation obligations. Accordingly, all Iranian nuclear activities are, and have always been, exclusively for peaceful purposes. Iran continues to fully cooperate with the IAEA. All its nuclear activities are under 24-hour surveillance cameras of the Agency. In addition, the resident inspectors of IAEA regularly visit these sites and measure and seal enriched uranium containers. Some of Iran's cooperation with the Agency have been beyond its legal obligations. We have done so as confidence-building measure. As a result, non-diversion of declared nuclear material in Iran has always been confirmed by all relevant IAEA reports, including the latest one on 28 August 2013, which states that "the Agency continued to verify the non-diversion of declared nuclear material declared by Iran under its Safeguards Agreement."

While fully supporting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy by all nations, we strongly reject possession of nuclear weapon by any nation. This is our principled position that: nuclear energy for all, nuclear weapons for none. We attach great importance to addressing genuine non-proliferation concerns. However, we reject any attempt to equate peaceful uses of nuclear energy with developing nuclear weapons.

As it has been stated time and again by the Iranian officials at all levels, in addition to our international obligations, Islamic teachings also oblige us not to pursue nuclear-weapon program. Likewise, from security point of view, we believe that these inhuman weapons did not and would never bring security. They are the greatest threat not only to the security of non-nuclear-weapon States but to that of their possessors too. There is even no single acceptable reason to possess nuclear weapons, but there are many agreeable reasons to abolish them all. For these reasons, nuclear weapon has no place in the defense doctrine of my country.

Despite all these, some countries still express concerns over the Iranian nuclear program. At the same time, there exists a deep mistrust and concerns by the Iranian nation over the policies and intentions of these countries too. We believe building mutual trust is possible only by resorting to the force of logic, not the logic of force. The solution is neither through threat or sanction, ~~nor a combination of Iran-oriented~~ ~~unilateralism~~. The era to resort to such tools has long passed. In our time, the golden rule is to resort to diplomacy alone. Sustainable solution is achievable only by respectful negotiations.

On its part, Iran has already expressed its full readiness to faithfully engage in meaningful, time-bound and result-oriented negotiations. Iran stands ready to ensure that its nuclear program will continue to remain exclusively peaceful. This can remove the concerns of other parties. In return and as a first step, in addition to acknowledging the inalienable right of Iran to peaceful uses of nuclear energy, including a full national nuclear fuel cycle, they should remove the Iranian's concerns which include annulling all sanctions, whether multilateral or unilateral.

It goes without saying that good faith, genuine political will, mutual respect and equal treatment with the interests of parties is essential for a win-win and sustainable solution. Therefore, other parties also need to adopt the same approach.

Moreover, I should underline the important contribution that other countries can make to this process by supporting diplomacy and helping to sustain the current positive atmosphere which is necessary for the effectiveness of diplomacy. Seizing this opportunity, I wish to thank sincerely all countries who continue to support our inalienable right to peaceful nuclear science and technology and those who supported in the past several days the ongoing process regarding the Iranian nuclear program.

Despite this fact, Mr. President, we just heard an extremely inflammatory statement by the ~~PLast speaker~~ <sup>last speaker</sup> in which he made allegations against exclusively peaceful nuclear activities of my country. I do not want to dignify such unfounded accusations with an answer other than categorically rejecting them all.

He tried to mislead this august body about the Iranian nuclear program, but unlike last year, without cartoon drawing. The most ironic part of his comments was when he tried to be more royal than the king by setting standards about the type and scope of Iran's nuclear activities, level of uranium enrichment, plutonium production and so on and so forth. ~~We~~ ~~know~~ that no one can dictate Iran what to do or not to do. Likewise, he should not forget that, as an NPT party, Iran is fully aware of ~~its~~ rights.

Iran also is fully committed to its obligations. Indeed, the one who is badly in need to be educated about these issues is Israel which is the only non-party to the NPT in the Middle East and to that end has no choice but to accede to the NPT, without any further delay and condition, and place all its nuclear activities under the IAEA comprehensive safeguards. He also made an attempt to mislead distinguished delegates about the danger of WMDs in the Middle East. However, he forgot to mention that the 2012 conference on the establishment of a WMD-free zone in the Middle East was not convened only due to the refusal of Israel to participate in the conference.

Like last year, he also continued saber rattling toward Iran by abusing this august Assembly for threatening a founding Member of this Organization which is established for the "prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace." Definitely, he enjoys full freedom to be proud of all atrocities and over 10 wars waged during the past 65 years by the Israeli regime against not only all its neighbors but others as well. He may wish also to apply for an international award certifying the ability of Israeli forces in never-ending savage attacks against peoples under occupation, in particular defenseless women and innocent children. However, he should seriously avoid miscalculation about Iran. Iran's centuries-old policy of non-aggression must not be interpreted as its inability to defend itself. Unlike Israel, Iran did not and would not attack any country. It is not because of its inability, but due to its principled policy in rejecting the use of force. Iranians are proud of being the best at exercising their inherent right to self-defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter. Therefore, the Israeli Prime Minister had better not even think about attacking Iran, let alone planning for that.

*I thank you Mr. President.*