

*New Version*

**Draft Statement by the Islamic Republic of Iran**  
**on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement**  
**before the 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council**

**under agenda item 2**  
**On the Update of the Annual report of the High Commissioner for human rights**  
**Geneva, September 9, 2013**

**Mr President,**

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The NAM has taken careful note of the Opening Statement of Madam High Commissioner for Human Rights which contained a wide range of issues and expresses its thanks to her for providing the Council with an informative report on important human rights issues and challenges. In this regard, we are fully aware of the works undertaken by the High Commissioner and her office to promote and protect human rights.

The NAM shares its serious concerns expressed by the High Commissioner over the Israel's continued policy of forced evictions and demolitions, in at least six different locations in the past three weeks alone. The NAM is also very concerned about the excessive use of force by Israeli security forces against Palestinian civilians during recent search and arrest operations in refugee camps in the West Bank.

The NAM is also extremely disturbed by the situation of human rights in Syria which has led to the suffering of Syria's civilian population and vulnerable groups. We condemn all acts of violence and the violations of international humanitarian and human rights law committed by all parties. The NAM also condemns the use of chemical weapons. We concur with the High Commissioner that a military action risks igniting a regional conflagration, resulting in many more deaths and even more widespread misery. We continue to believe and that the only way out of this situation, is the immediate negotiation to end the conflict. States, along with the United Nations, must find a way to bring the parties to the negotiating table. Indeed, the best solution continues to be a negotiated settlement involving an inclusive and meaningful national

dialogue among all parties, leading to a lasting political solution that reflects the legitimate aspirations of Syrian people. In this regard, NAM reiterates the important role of the United Nations in maintaining peace and security. Furthermore, unilateral actions against Syrians should be strictly avoided.

The NAM also shares the concerns raised by the High Commissioner over the impact of use of the broad scope of national security surveillance regimes in a number of western countries including the United States and the United Kingdom on individuals' right to privacy and other human rights. The NAM is also concerned on continued social exclusion and segregation of Roma in many European States. At the same time, the NAM expresses its deep regrets that ongoing trend of racist, xenophobic and Islamophobic acts and their manifestations in the political arena and in the media have not been addressed in the report of the High Commissioner.

The NAM recognizes the High Commissioner's point of view on the impact of economic crisis on different aspects of economic and social aspect of life as well as the human rights of people around the world including increasing food insecurity and in particular impacting the rights of the most vulnerable communities, including the poor, women, youth, older persons, and persons with disabilities. The NAM is convinced that the international financial and economic crisis and the resulting downturn in global economic growth severely affect in particular the economies of developing countries and negatively impact on the realization of the right to development, constraining social investment, deepening poverty and raising unemployment rates. Furthermore, the global financial and economic crisis is not over and the recovery is uneven and uncertain. Therefore, we call on all Member States to participate in an open, inclusive and transparent dialogue for a new international economic and financial system and architecture.

In this regard, The NAM recalls the 16<sup>th</sup> NAM Summit which reaffirmed that many new areas of concern and challenges have emerged, particularly the second wave of the global financial and economic crisis. This warrants the renewal of commitment by the international community to uphold and defend the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law.

**Mr. President,**

We concur with the High Commissioner's point of view on the independent regular review of States by the UN human rights treaty bodies as a key element of the international community's system, particularly the Universal Periodic Review mechanism.

The NAM takes note of madam High Commissioner's initiative to circulate an open letter to member States calling for a new universal, balanced and human rights-based development framework in the post-2015 agenda.

The NAM also recognizes the serious and constructive engagement by member states in the inter-governmental process in New York on treaty body system. In this connection, we welcome the serious and constructive engagement by member States in the inter-governmental process in New York.

In conclusion, we would like to once again reaffirm NAM's firm commitment to constructively engage with all member states and the Council, with a view to reinforcing its credibility, while achieving more balance between all human rights bearing in mind that they are universal, indivisible, interdependent and mutually reinforcing, with the final objective of strengthening our collective efforts towards the promotion and protection of human rights in the world.

Thank you.

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