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to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations
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Statement

by

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before

the 3rd Session of the Human Rights Council

on

***the implementation of the GA Resolution 60/251
“Agenda of the Human Rights Council”***

Geneva, 30th November 2006

In the Name of God the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. President,

What the Council needs for the first year is to conclude structural changes within the duration outlined by the resolution 60/251 which is crucially significant for the realization of the task entrusted to the Council. In order to have a clear and predictable picture about the future work of the Human Rights Council, it is indispensable to have a structured and standard agenda which reflects the priorities identified by the Member States of the United Nations concerning the themes and conceptions.

This session of the Human Rights Council should concentrate on laying ground for adoption of a structured and standard agenda for the sessions of the HRC. The items on the agenda of the Council should be allocated to each of its four annual sessions in an equitable and balanced manner and also allow for effective participation of the developing countries.

The predictability, transparency, accountability, objectivity, and non selectivity and respect for cultural and religious specificities should be guiding principles for the drawing the agenda of the Council and its method of work. Accountability facilitates also the scrutiny of the work of the rest of the components of the United Nations. Moreover, the agenda of the Council should respect an adequate balance in treatment of all human rights, civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, in particular right to development.

Mr. President,

The agenda of the CHR contains several items which are relevant to the mandates of the Human Rights Council and should, therefore, be preserved and included in the agenda of the Council. These include:

- Right to self – determination
- Racism, racial intolerance and xenophobia.
- Defamation of religion and incitement to religious and racial hatred
- Right to development
- Question of violation of Human rights in the occupied Palestinian, Syrian and Lebanon territories.

- Economic, social and cultural rights as well as civil and political rights
- Migrants and indigenous people as well as women and children rights
- Report of the expert advisory body
- Function of human rights bodies including treaty bodies and Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Emerging issues
- Annual report of the High Commissioner and interactive dialogue to the main session of the human rights council.

Agenda Item 9 of the CHR must be eliminated, considering it was the main cause of politicization, double standards and selectivity which undermined the credibility of CHR.

Moreover, the resolution A/ 60/251 itself provides an input such as dialogue on human rights issues, technical cooperation, advisory services for capacity building, universal periodic review. Every session should have the same basic agenda to avoid the need to renegotiate it every time.

Mr. President,

The process of elaboration of the agenda of the Human Rights Council for its second year should be placed on the current session of the Council's programme of work. In this regard, Islamic Republic of Iran shares view of the African Group that the process of elaborating the agenda shall be undertaken in a structured framework by establishing an open – ended intergovernmental working group on the agenda of the Human Rights Council under the leadership of the President of the Council. We call the Human Rights Council to adopt the draft decision proposed by the African Group by consensus.

Thank you