

UPR of IRAN - INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

Feb 15, 2010; 0900-1200 hrs

**INTERVENTION BY INDIA**

Mr. President,

India warmly welcomes the delegation of Iran led by H. E. Dr. Mohammad Javad Larijani, Secretary General of Iran's High Council for Human Rights and thanks the delegation for the presentation of its National Report.

02. The Report provides an overview of Iran's normative and institutional framework for protection of human rights in the country, as also information on national human rights initiatives, challenges and priorities. We appreciate Iran's cooperation with the UN human rights mechanisms, particularly standing invitations to Special Procedures.

Mr. President,

03. An ancient civilisation that has enriched the world in myriad ways, Iran has achieved considerable success in its socio-economic development in recent years. UNICEF has noted that economic growth and implementation of extensive welfare programmes have improved the living standards of a large proportion of the population. The gains made in economic, social and cultural rights are noteworthy, especially in the fields of health-care and literacy. Iran is signatory to a number of core international human rights instruments and has an active civil society. We take positive note of the cooperation with UNICEF and UNDP in the

areas of rights of children and capacity-building for promotion of human rights.

04. However, as acknowledged in the National Report, several challenges remain and a main source of these relates to the reconciling of some religious principles with obligations under international human rights instruments to which Iran is a party. Encouraged by this acknowledgment, we request the delegation to share its views on ways to strengthen the empowerment of women, including through consideration of accession to CEDAW. We request them to continue to strengthen developmental efforts for the vulnerable groups, including religious minorities. We request them to continue to strengthen the machinery for the enjoyment of civil and political rights, in conformity with their obligations under the ICCPR. We also request them to continue to strengthen their human rights education programme, especially among the judicial and penal systems. Lastly, we request the delegation to share its views on establishing a National Human Rights Institution compliant with Paris Principles.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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