Statement of H.E. Ali Asghar Soltanieh

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to United Nations and other International Organization in Vienna on the

Resolution of the BOG - 27 November 2009

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

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, I should express the deep concern and disappointment of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the adoption of a hasty and undue resolution imposed by few members on the Board of Governors. The historical resistance of Cuba, Malaysia, Venezuela, Afghanistan, Brazil, Egypt, Pakistan, South Africa and Turkey by voting against or not supporting the resolution proves their commitment to the profound principles of the Non-Aligned Movement as well as the spirit and the letter of the Agency's Statute.

Mr. Chairman,

The resolution has referred to issues such as suspension, Additional Protocol, Modified Code of 3.1 and so-called Alleged Studies which have been thoroughly explained in the course of several meetings including the present session, thus I refrain from further elaboration due to time constraint.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

This resolution is fully political in nature and lacks any legal and technical basis. It should be noted that in spite of lack of any legal obligation, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as in the past, proved its good will and decided to declare Fordow Enrichment Plant to the Agency 18 months earlier than the timeline envisaged in Iran's Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement. I have to recall that pursuant to the request by the Director General of the IAEA during his visit to Iran, upon invitation of the President of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization, my Government agreed to provide the Agency the Design Information Questionnaire (DIQ) for Fordow Facility, to permit the inspection and granted unlimited access to the inspectors. The result of the inspection has been reflected in the present DG report, declaring in a crystal clear manner that the findings of the inspectors are consistent with the declaration of Iran.

Now the international community is called upon to judge, whether the outcome of such an extensive cooperation should be a resolution against Iran! Are such gestures helpful or destructive? They are certainly destructive. They spoil the existing cooperative environment.

What lessons one could learn from such politically motivated developments? Being party to the NPT, implementation of treaty obligations and cooperation

even beyond obligations would be responded by pressure, resolutions, sanctions and threat of military attacks where, if one stays out of the Treaty, would benefit from an environment of complete freedom from any inspection and control, punitive measures and more surprisingly, if one acquires and develops nuclear weapons it would be rewarded? What a shameful discriminatory situation we are facing here? Even more shameful is the silence of those preaching peace and justice in the world!

Mr. Chairman,

It seems that past experiences in the IAEA are being intentionally neglected. Hence I deem it appropriate to remind that the immediate consequence of unjustified and illegal behaviour of few States in conveying Iran's nuclear issue to the UN Security Council was the decision of the Iranian parliament mandating the government to suspend the voluntary cooperation of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the Agency in some areas such as implementing Additional Protocol and Modified Code of 3.1.

Adoption of such a resolution is not only not helpful in improving the current situation, but it shall jeopardize the conducive environment vitally needed for a successful process of Geneva and Vienna negotiations expected to lead to a common understanding. This action poses serious doubt about decisive political and good will of other parties in following up the path of interaction and continuation of Geneva and Vienna negotiations.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, I reiterate that the Great Nation of Iran shall never bound to pressure and intimidation vis-à-vis its inalienable right for peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The knowledge is the heritage of mankind and no one has the right to deprive any nation to benefit from it.

Therefore, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has no choice than to fulfil the legitimate expectation of its people in sustaining the peaceful uses of nuclear energy including enrichment activities. Neither resolutions of the Board of Governors nor those of the United Nations Security Council which lack legal basis, and the last but not the least, neither sanctions nor the threat of military attacks can interrupt peaceful nuclear activities in Iran even a second.

Thank you.