

Islamic Republic of Iran

The Statement by:

H.E. Dr Hamid Pourmohammadi

Deputy Vice-President for Planning,

Vice- Presidency for Strategic Planning and Supervision

in

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**In the name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful**

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**Mr. Chairman**

**Honorable Ministers and Madam Executive Secretary of ESCAP**

**Distinguished Delegates, ladies and gentlemen,**

At the outset, on behalf of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I would like to congratulate you on your well deserved election as the chair of this session and also thank the Executive Secretary of UNESCAP and her colleagues for providing the session with necessary documents as well as the government and the people of Thailand for their warm hospitality.

It is our pleasure to get together again in the sixty ninth UNESCAP commission session in order to lay the necessary grounds for better life of our people and finding solutions for existing problems through a joint and valuable work to create better world for our generation at present and future. Despite of all efforts and measures taken, our world facing two serious challenges:

- a) inevitable natural disasters and crisis,
- b) inefficient and discriminatory systems dominating the world.

Every year our region encounters with various natural hazards including earthquakes, typhoons, tsunamis, drought and epidemic diseases. Despite the high economic growth rate in the recent years, Asia and the Pacific regions are still facing chronic problems such as poverty, hunger, unemployment and inequality, reducing the effects of our efforts. These disasters and crisis direct all of us towards mutual decision making and cooperation. The region requires development of the necessary resilient infrastructures against disasters and crisis. Furthermore, the region needs the mutual cooperation and interaction for overcoming the poverty, unemployment, and disparities.

It is obvious that the UNESCAP is a suitable institution with reliable position for all nations of the region to overcome the disasters and economic problems. We hope that through these efforts the nature and its difficulties will be harnessed for the sake of human being to create a prosperous and peaceful life.

Regarding the inefficient and discriminatory system of the world, we are facing emerging and more complicated challenges; because in the case of coping with natural disasters people come together and follow a single target, but in terms of discriminatory system reaching the consensus for reforms is unachievable due to interest contradictions among some states. The current international crisis have had serious consequences for the developing countries. While these countries did not have any role in creation of such a kind of crisis, due to interdependency of the world economy and globalization, they are being faced with the intense consequence of the crisis and occasionally finding their economic and social assets in danger.

Also, the fundamental and structural weaknesses and inefficient international monetary and financial institutions, have been the main factors in intensifying the adverse impacts of the recent crisis and lack of appropriate solutions for the crisis.

Countries enjoying more power and wealth neither should neglect the right of their own fellow creatures nor should seek their welfare and prosperity in the difficulties and suffers of other countries people. And no country should see its economic prosperity in destroying the environment.

The stability and the peacefulness which come from other people anxiety are not lasting and enjoyable. We are all created by one God. We are all human being and all living in the earth.

Let us tie our sympathy to our cooperation and expand our vision's horizon and being thoughtful of the future generation, avoiding economic crisis and managing natural disaster properly through using UNESCAP capacity.

Therefore the future of the human beings faces with serious challenges due to natural disasters and unfair global systems. Hence it is necessary to think and take necessary measures for the period beyond 2015. The issues such as south-south cooperation, regional financial institutions enhancement, development of regional



institutions for Public Private Partnership (PPP), and taking efforts to reduce risk of investment and economic activities as well as development and enhancement of the disaster information management are amongst the issues to be put in UNESCAP agenda.

**Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen**

The Islamic Republic of Iran respects UNESCAP and member countries and believes that UNESCAP as one of the UN regional bodies has valuable capability and potential to help people of the region through creating a comprehensive view towards the strengths and weaknesses as well as threats and opportunities, so that Asia and the Pacific people anxieties away from their differences and routine dispute can be considered equally. May be in the shadow of these sincere sympathy and cooperation we can avoid encountering to death of lovelies resulting poverty , hunger, incident and disaster.

I have the honor to inform the commission that The Islamic Republic of Iran has taken the required measures and efforts to enhance the UNESCAP initiatives in line with realization of its valuable objectives. In this regard as Executive Secretary of UNESCAP expressed in the opening of the senior official segment, the Islamic Republic of Iran successfully hosted and held the **Third Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Public-Private Partnership for Infrastructure Development** with close cooperation and valuable presence of Dr Hayzer, under-secretary general and executive secretary of UNESCAP in Tehran in 2012. I hope that outcomes of the conference being supported by distinguished delegates and member states through adoption of the related resolution. Also I should mention that I.R. Iran compiled and submitted new regulations regarding PPP enhancement in the country to be ratified in the parliament. While voicing the support for adoption of the dry ports resolution, I would like to inform the commission that in line with implementing the UNESCAP resolutions and agreements, Iran has completed all the Asian Highway routes within its territory and is upgrading their quality. The renovation of the highways in two recent years considerably assisted the increase in road safety as well as decreasing of the casualties. The construction of missing links of the Trans-Asian Railroads within Iran's boundary has been prioritized and it is projected to be finalized within two next years.

The I. R. Iran announces its readiness to hold series of expert group meetings on capacity development for disaster information management in the UNESCAP region in full cooperation with UNESCAP secretariat which has always supporting our efforts in line with establishment of the centre. Also I have the pleasure to announce the commission that in implementation of resolution no. 67/4 all the necessary measures taken for establishment of Asian and Pacific Center for Development of Disaster Information Management. It is worth to mention that I.R.Iran and UNESCAP are working jointly to finalize the process of the establishment of the center.

Also I.R. Iran is ready to share its experiences to other countries of the region regarding improving standard in the houses construction and residential complexes. And pursuing of its implementation through adopting necessary regulations and developing required institutions to ensure application of the standard which are considerably effective in disaster mitigation. In this regard the comprehensive programs have been launched for retrofitting of existing construction which has brought good result for disaster risk reduction.

In conclusion, It is my pleasure to thank Madam Heyzer and her colleagues for their valuable decision made and successful efforts done in facilitating of the affairs related to the implementation of the resolution no 67/4. I hope that by relying on God and good will as well as efforts done by all of the member states we will see the UNESCAP overcoming all challenges facing the region.

**Thank you**