

Statement by
extraordinary and
**H.E. Hossein Kamalian, Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extra-ordinary to
the Kingdom of Thailand and Permanent Representative to ESCAP**

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In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to congratulate Your Excellency on your election as the chair of the 71st session of the Commission. I am confident that the ongoing session will contribute to inclusive and sustainable development as well as regional integration and robust cooperation in Asia and the Pacific.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

The seventy-first Commission session is being held in an atmosphere in which the world feels more than ever the need for peace and stability as an integral part of development and poverty eradication. The fulfillment of such an ambitious goal is highly dependent on countries' firm decisiveness and the engagement of international entities particularly the United Nations and its subsidiary regional commissions in building economic infrastructure and sustainable development in the developing countries.

We need to embark on accurate realistic planning, financing, and implementing of agreements in order to achieve the three dimensions of sustainable development. This necessitates not only strong partnership among the ESCAP member States, but also continuation of help and support from developed countries in the context of North-South cooperation. ESCAP Secretariat is expected to pave the ground for the fulfillment of such cooperation with an effectively target-oriented approach by placing the matter high on the agenda.

Energy security is regarded as one of the key elements associating economy with security. Having easy access to energy together with increasing transparency in the global market especially in favor of least developed countries is an undeniable prerequisite of building infrastructure for economic growth and development.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, counting on its huge natural reserves, expresses its readiness to help ensure energy security all over the world by playing a constructive role based on the principle of mutual interests. Securing energy supply and demand can primarily pave the way for transforming energy into the most sustainable factor of peace and stability in the region and worldwide. In this context we welcome and support the creation of a new committee on energy as the result of Conference restructuring.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,

With regard to economic sanctions, they can have a negative impact on target countries by limiting their trade balance and cooperation with the world, impeding the inflow of finance and foreign investment to the domestic markets of affected countries as they are often intended to paralyze their economic cooperation and social development. Unilateral economic sanctions unfairly imposed on Iran, in particular in the field of oil and gas industry, has also affected already fragile global economy.

To live up with these daunting challenges , the policy adopted by the new government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is aimed at cooperating with international community, scaling up the volume of economic transactions with the world, building fruitful interaction with multilateral financial institutions, as well as taking initiatives and reforms in different sectors, including transferring public projects and infrastructure plans to the private sector and establishment of multilateral dialogue with non- governmental sector as well as civil society. As a result of new policy, a promising perspective of stable growth is expected.

In the same line, I would like to underline that the Commission, in line with post-2015 development agenda could adopt a new approach on the promotion of economic reforms throughout the region by preparing a draft resolution according to which successful countries in the region assist other member States with reform policies.

Distinguished Delegates,

My country is currently facing a number of ecological problems including, inter alia, periodical micro-dust storm and a long severe forecasted draught. To help efficiently address this challenging issue, relevant solutions and initiatives by related agencies, high-tech companies or by Member States is warmly welcomed.

Furthermore since the UNESCO Tehran Cluster Office has opened in place a centre for water resources management in dry and semi-dry zones, we call upon ESCAP to foster scientific cooperation in this respect and notably when it comes to the management of underground water resources to help reduce the problems of rain falls shortage.

**Mr.Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Lastly, on behalf of my government, I would like to offer my deepest condolences to the government and people of Nepal, who have experienced painful moments following the recent deadly earthquake, which brought about thousands of casualties, injuries, leaving hundreds of thousands of people homeless. In this context, in a region prone to frequent disasters, the Asia Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (APDIM) while being established and operationalized will contribute to the realization of Sustainable Development Goals as it can relieve pains and mitigate infrastructural damages left behind natural disasters.

To this end, the Government of I.R of Iran, in cooperation with the Secretariat has taken key Steps towards the implementation of the Commission Resolution 67/4 on the establishment of APDIM. Here I would like to express our sincere appreciation to Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, the Executive Secretary of ESCAP for her support and guidance.

Fortunately after extensive consultations and receiving support from all the member States, the draft resolution to establish APDIM is being put forward by the working group on draft resolutions to the 71st Commission session for its due adoption. I would like to thank for all invaluable supports and co-sponsorships that the draft resolution has received. On behalf of my government, this delegation

seeks the continued invaluable support of all the member States as to establish and put into operation of APDIM as a regional Centre for reducing risks and damages of disasters in Asia and the Pacific.

Thank you very much.