Islamic Republic of R A N Permanent Mission to the United Nations

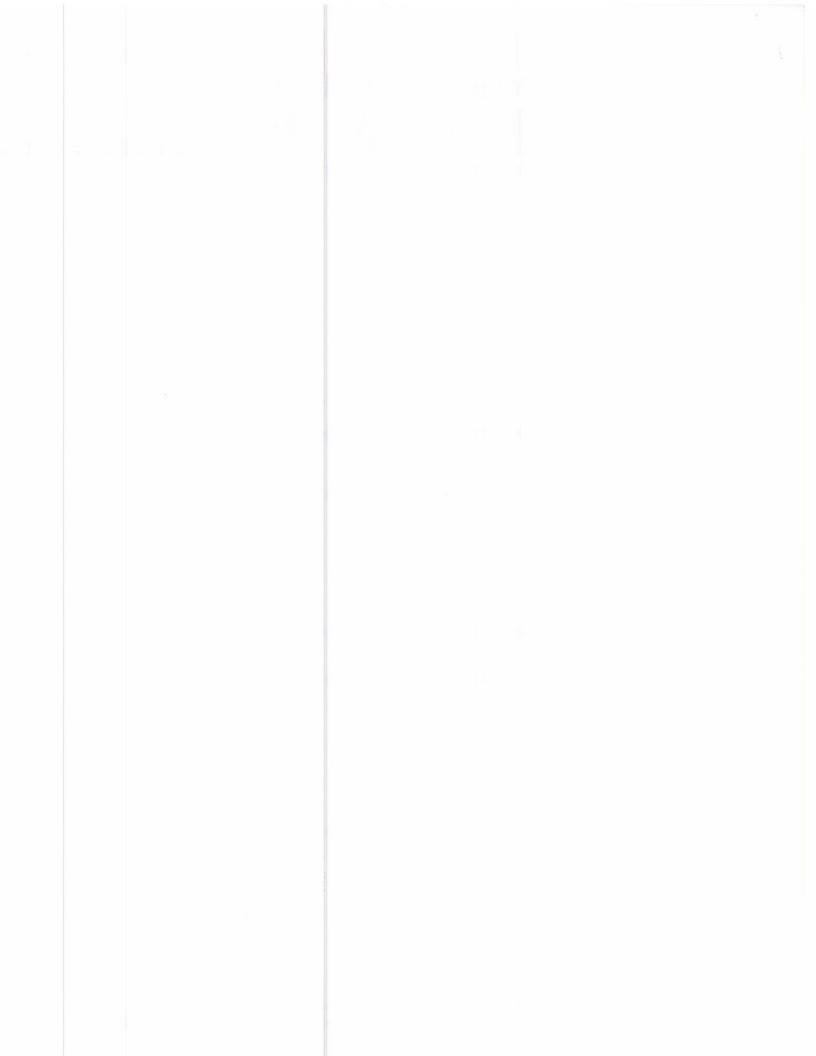
Statement by:

Mr. Ahmad Rajabi
Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran

To the United Nations
on
"Agriculture"
Before

The Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting of CSD-17 in New York, 24 February, 2009

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In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Madame Chair;

At the outset, I would like to associate myself with the statement made by the distinguished representative of Sudan on behalf of G-77 and China on the theme "Agriculture". I would like to express my appreciation to the Secretary General for the report which will help guide our negotiations.

Agriculture continues to be a fundamental instrument for sustainable development and poverty reduction. Agricultural growth and poverty reduction depend critically on investments in rural infrastructure (irrigation, roads, transport, power, and telecommunication), as well as on investments in markets and rural finance. While 75 per cent of the world's poor live in rural areas in developing countries, a mere 4 per cent of official development assistance goes to agriculture. The world population is projected to increase to about 9 billion by 2050, and almost all of the increase will be in the cities of the developing world. Emerging of the food crisis and population growth remind us of our commitment to sustainable development goals, and their follow up process.

I take this opportunity and indicate on policy options and practical measures to accelerate implementation in the agricultural sector that seems to be essential:

- enhancement of agricultural and marine products in Quantitative and qualitative for the purpose of providing food security;
- Increasing of protein products from animal and fishery resources for the purpose of providing quality nutrition for the population;
- Implementation of the macro strategic policies for the development of water resources;

- Allocation of water for economic purposes by considering the unit of production per unit of water used;
- Revision of water demand management instead of water supply management and water allocation procedures for profitable production units;
- Creation of competitive water markets and Encouragement of public participatory in the execution of water related projects;
- Recycling the byproducts of the sewage treatment plants and water recirculation; Improvement of irrigation networks and change the water utilization methods;
- Promotion of water saving activities and appropriate water use among agricultural water consumers, Development and implementation of utilization systems, participation of non-governmental sectors (water right holders and landowners), and establishment of water consumers cooperatives;
- experts employment from entrepreneurs in water and agriculture sectors, with the priority given to rural settlers;
- 10. To increase water use efficiency, water productivity and the area of irrigated lands;
- 11. Construction of small and large reservoir dams, pump stations, designed according to the technical and engineering standards;
- 12. Enhancement of water transportation, delivery and distribution networks;
- Establishment of agricultural production cooperatives and other cooperatives relevant to natural resources, soil and water;

- 14. To support the development of conversion and supplementary agroindustries with the purpose of reducing waste production;
- 15. Promotion of sustainable natural resources management, improvement of grazing management in the rangelands, and protection of the livestock genetic diversity;
- 16. To regulate the nomadic migration affairs based on the grazing capacity of the rangelands;
- 17. To increase the share of insurance industry in reimbursement of damages imposed by unexpected disasters;
- 18. Expansion of insurance coverage to the agricultural products;
- 19. To benefit from the technical services offered by private and cooperative sectors;
- 20. To raise the income and livelihood levels of the rural communities and farmers, and eradicate poverty;
- 21. Management of water use by measuring the water consumptions in agriculture sector;

Madame Chair, I hope that the Commission able to set policy options and practical measures at all levels with regard to the thematic issues of agriculture under consideration in a manner that will contribute significantly to combat food crisis and alleviation of poverty.

I thank you Madam Chair

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