



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
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Statement

by

**H.E. Ambassador Kazem GharibAbadi
Resident Representative to the IAEA**

before

The IAEA Board of Governors

on

**Verification and Monitoring in the Islamic Republic of Iran in
Light of United Nations Security Council resolution 2231 (2015)**

13-17 September 2021

Vienna, Austria

In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Please, check against delivery

Madam Chair,

Director General,

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me begin, Madam Chair, with thanking you, the Director General and his team in the Secretariat whose efforts made it possible for us to hold this meeting in a hybrid format.

Madam Chair,

The United States initially violated UNSCR 2231, by unilaterally withdrawing from the JCPOA and adopting the failed “maximum pressure” policy and re-imposing sanctions to directly and adversely affect the normalization of trade and economic relations with Iran, thus, made it impossible for Islamic Republic of Iran to continue to implement its commitments under the JCPOA. Lifting of sanctions effectively, constitute the essential basis of Iran’s consent to be bound by the provisions of the deal and thus the violations of the US rendered those parts of the deal void and effectively futile.

Unfortunately these concerns were not addressed meaningfully by EU/E3. They neither complied with their commitments nor provided practical solutions in order to rectify the violation of the deal. Now, more than three years have passed since the illegal withdrawal of U.S from the deal, and only in December 2020, the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran passed a law which required the Government to stop the implementation of all verification and monitoring activities beyond Iran’s Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement (CSA), including the provisional

implementation of the Additional Protocol (AP). The requirements envisaged in the law were not met in the appropriate time frame and as a result, the government of Iran was obliged to implement the law and the remedial measures therein.

Madam Chair,

I note with regret and consternation the statements of some JCPOA participants and European states. It is as if they misremember the fact that it was Iran who fully complied with its commitments under the deal while, due to the U.S outlaw behavior and actions and EU/E3's miserable negligence, was not and still is not benefiting from it. Apparently, they intend to displace the victim with the outlaw perpetrator. It is regrettable that European states are still unwilling to condemn the illegal unilateral withdrawal of U.S and re-imposition of its sanctions, which are the sole cause of all these problems, and to urge U.S to resume implementing its commitments and lift its sanctions imposed against Iranian nation, yet, presumptuously request Iran to implement its commitments under the deal.

I would like to re-emphasize on this point that until the sanctions on Iran are not removed, no one should expect more forbearance from Iran. Our nuclear activities, including enrichment at different levels and production of metallic based uranium fuel are completely peaceful, in line with our rights under the NPT, and are under the safeguards monitoring and verification of the Agency. I sincerely advise these countries to abandon scapegoating and start rectifying their failure in implementing their commitments. Iran has fulfilled completely, in past 3 years, its share of prudence and constructiveness.

Madam Chair,

Iran has engaged seriously and meaningfully in negotiations with the JCPOA participants to address the issues resulting from the U.S

withdrawal. In this framework, as it is stated by our president and minister of foreign affairs, Iran is of the view that the negotiations should be result oriented. It is important that the outcome of these efforts ensure that all sanctions are lifted in an effective and verifiable manner, we do not want to face, once again, the catastrophe in which the US withdraws from the agreement or abuses the mechanisms in the JCPOA and violates all of its commitments therein while Iran is in full compliance with the provisions of the deal.

While the former U.S administration unlawfully sacrificed well-established principle of international law, namely *Pacta Sunt Servanda*, on the altar of its self-righteousness, the new administration has not yet rectified this irresponsible behavior in order to alleviate its destructive outcomes.

It is yet to be observed whether the current U.S administration is serious enough and ready to abandon the United States' addiction to use unilateral coercive measures, respect international law, implement its sanctions lifting commitments in a full and effective manner and take all necessary decisions that this might entail. It is crucial that the US stop violating its obligations under the deal and the UNSC Resolution 2231 without further delay and any pre-conditions.

Needless to say, that Iran's commitments under the deal are beyond its obligations and therefore, implementation of remedial measures by Islamic Republic of Iran under its rights enshrined in the deal, is not hampering those obligations. In this vein, Director General's report that the Agency's verification and monitoring activities have been seriously undermined, should be seen in its appropriate context that is related to the obligations beyond CSA.

In this context, it should be noted that the Director General's statement in his report regarding "Iran's failure to respond to the Agency's

requests for access to its monitoring equipment is seriously compromising the Agency's technical capability to maintain continuity of knowledge" and requesting Iran to rectify the situation, is not related to the safeguards obligations, since it is in the realm of implementation of the JCPOA which Iran suspended it based on its rights under paragraphs 26 and 36 of the deal. Furthermore, data recording was a political decision by Iran to facilitate, including inter alia, the political talks and to help its success and should not be considered as Iran's obligation in relation with the Agency. Continuation or discontinuation of recordings have nothing to do with Iran's Safeguards obligations. Undoubtedly any decision to be taken by Iran in this regard would only be based on its political considerations and the Agency cannot and should not consider it as one of its entitlements.

In the same vein, while one of the Agency's equipment have been destroyed in a sabotage act in one of the AEOI workshops, it is regrettable and puzzling that the Agency is requesting Iran to locate its remnants and to provide additional information as to the reasons for their absence, without setting out its position regarding acts of sabotage, as it is required to do so by many General Conference and General Assembly resolutions. The Agency should, alongside taking care of its inspectors, equipment and verification activities, fulfill its responsibilities and obligations with respect to terrorist sabotage acts against civilian and peaceful nuclear facilities of its member states. It is imperative to address this issue in the discussions on nuclear security so as to find effective measures in order to tackle the problem of sabotages in nuclear facilities, and the Agency should decide to resolve this paradoxical approach and take clear position in this regard.

Nevertheless, I would like to inform the Board that due to Iran's goodwill during the Director General's visit on September 12, 2021, to Tehran and meeting with Vice-President of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Head of AEOI, the two side agreed that the IAEA's inspectors will

service the identified equipment and replace their storage media, which will be kept under joint IAEA and AEOI seals in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

I thank you Madam Chair.