Statement
Delivered by Mr. Behzad Azarsa
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Item 13 - UNCTAD contributions to the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Mr. President,
Distinguished Delegates,

At the outset, My delegation associates itself with the statements made by distinguished Ambassador of Zambia in her capacity as coordinator of G77 and distinguished representative of Iraq as the coordinator of Asia-Pacific Group. Now, I would like to elaborate further some important points in my brief statement.

I would also like to thank Madam Elizabeth Durant, deputy Secretary General for sharing with us her thoughts and wisdom by highlighting on the essential elements of the topic under discussion.

1. Multilateralism, as a global umbrella, is key to success in our collective endeavors at present and future. Multilateralism should be upheld and respected by all political institutions and initiatives with no exception as we envisage and plan the road to sustainable development;

2. Vulnerabilities are magnified by external shocks. Moreover, it has had severe human consequences and taken innocent lives and injuries.

3. Active participation of developing countries is essential in all stages of decision making specially issues with economic, social and public health context, at regional and international levels;
4. South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation are required to achieve sustainable development with its three mutually enforcing pillars of economic development, social development and environmental protection.

5. The commitment of developed countries in the UNCED in 1992 and in the other major UN fora to allocate annually 0.7 percent of their national GDP to assist developing countries, and mobilization of adequate resources to achieve sustainable development, are still a valid point.

6. The covid-19 pandemic highlights the urgent need for health and economic policy action, including global cooperation, to cushion its consequences, protect vulnerable populations, and strengthen countries’ capacities to prevent and deal with similar events in the future.

7. Under the pandemic circumstances, it is more imperative that developed countries respect their commitments towards developing economies, by all means including transfer of technology, investment, financing with no restraint or precondition.

8. During and in the post-Covid 19 era, accessibility to and availability of safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, vaccines, diagnostics, therapeutics and other health products and technologies are essential in the spirit of solidarity and cooperation to ensure adequate and effective response to pandemic for all, especially developing countries, which are mostly affected.

I thank you Mr. President.