

**Statement by**  
**Mr. Tofigh SEDIGH MOSTAHKAM**  
**Minister, Permanent Mission of the I.R. of Iran**  
**at the Sixty-eighth Executive Session of the**  
**United Nations Conference on Trade and development**  
*Geneva, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2019*

**Item 2 – Interdependence and development strategies in a globalized world**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**Mr. President,**

**Excellencies,**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

My delegation associates itself with the statements made by Ecuador on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and by Iraq on behalf of the Asian Group.

Joining other colleagues, I appreciate the Division of Globalization and Development of UNCTAD for the publication of the Flagship Report of “Financing a Global Green New Deal”. The report is thought-provoking in many aspects with regard to the challenges developing countries face in attaining the SDGs. In all projects, financing is one of the most important pillars without which the project cannot be implemented. This can be seen in Public Private Partnership for

development. We believe that without any practical steps toward the provision of reliable and sufficient finance for development, achieving SDGs remain in limbo.

On climate change, and as per the statistics, developing countries yield about 80% less atmospheric carbon dioxide than developed countries. That depicts huge differences when we compare the statistics, and as such should be taken seriously in our calculation for discharging responsibilities. We underline that the responsibility should be common but differentiated. It's clear that finance is critically important in addressing climate change. In this context, we recall that in 2009, industrialized countries pledged to mobilize jointly \$100 billion a year by 2020 in climate finance for developing nations, which is yet to be realized.

**Mr. President,**

Multilateralism is key in furthering development agenda; extreme unilateralism in the form of unilateral coercive measures and secondary sanctions or by imposing undue protectionist tariffs on trade, has put the whole multilateral trade system at risk of unparalleled damage.

Unilateralism, including unlawful sanctions, leaves high burden on the targeted countries. According to numerous GA Reports, including the most recent one A/HRC/42/46 of 5 July 2019, sanctions, including unilateral coercive measures employed by States, take different forms or a combination of measures, ranging from the restriction or disruption of trade, or financial and investment flows between sender and targeted countries. In the preamble of its resolutions, the General Assembly refers to certain general principles, including freedom of international trade and navigation, which is also enshrined in many international legal instruments. It also refers to declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums,

bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of measures of the kind referred to above.

It would thus appear that the international community views as unlawful those unilateral coercive measures the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation. States are therefore strongly urged to avoid application of such measures which are in contradiction with developmental negotiations.

In conclusion, we emphasize that reliable and predictable financial resources are a must for developing countries in order to overcome the ongoing challenges and attain the SDGs, particularly for the Green Deal. To this end, shared responsibilities and international actions are required.

According to paragraph 46 of the Nairobi Maafikiano, we support South-South Cooperation and would like the UNCTAD to assist developing countries in their efforts as a complementary, and not substitute to the North – South Cooperation.

**I thank you for your attention.**