

Statement by  
the Islamic Republic of Iran  
on the report of the working Group on the implementation of op6 of  
resolution 60/251  
3<sup>rd</sup> October 2006

In the Name of God

At the outset, allow me to express our appreciation of the efforts made by facilitators of the Working Group on the Implementation of op6 of resolution 60/251.

**Mr. President,**

I take this opportunity to underscore our view on main elements of the review process.

System of Special Procedures

The review and rationalization of mandate suggests two distinct components of improving the function and working methods of the system of mandate holders and then the rationalization process.

One of the primary reasons for the credibility deficit of the special procedures system was that States had no role in the selection of mandate holders. The elections of mandates holders should be left to the Council. The composition of the mandate holders system should represent geographical distribution, different legal systems, and various cultural and religions values. Further, equal weight must be given to civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights.

The scope of mandates should be set out carefully by the Council. The system should be subject to accountability. In this regard, regular review of mandates and mandates holder remains an essential component of the system, to ensure that the system of mandate holders runs at its highest capacity. We note that a Manual of the UN Human Rights Special Procedures already developed. Since mandates are created by the Council, it only stands to reason that the content of the Manual or Code of Conduct be subject to the approval of the Council.

**Mr. President,**

Iran is of the view that the possibility of streamlining and merging overlap and duplicative mandates should be part of the agenda of the working group. Furthermore, Working Group should look at country mandates with a view to remove them from the system of special procedures. Since

these mandates were the main cause of politicization and confrontation in the Commission on Human Rights.

#### Expert body

As it has been suggested by some previous speakers, in order to establish a clear role for a professional group of independent experts significant improvements should be made to the existing election process and operations of the expert body. In this context, the current system of constituting the expert advisory body on the basis of equitable geographical representation and nomination by the States and election by the Council should be preserved. Further, more seats should be allocated to the Asian region. Its function and work should be thematic and should not take up country specific issues.

#### 1503 procedure

Confidentiality and a set of criteria for admissibility of complaints are positive features of this procedure. These criteria should be strictly observed. However, the shortcomings of the 1503 procedure should be acknowledged and overcome within this working group. This could be done through increasing in the numbers of the members of any mechanism under 1503 procedure.

Before examination of a communications all domestic remedies should be exhausted. Any decision to refer a country to the Council should be based on a clear set of criteria and comprehensive information which indicates a pattern of systematic and grave violations of human rights.

Thank you