

Statement by:

H.E Dr. M.Shafie-Pour  
Vice-Head of Department of environment on International Affairs of  
The Islamic Republic of Iran  
On “ Way Forward”  
During  
the High-Level Segment of the Eighteenth Session of the  
Commission on Sustainable Development  
United Nations Headquarters, New York  
12-14 May, 2010

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Ministers,  
Honorable Delegates, Ladies & Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to address the High-level segment of the 18th Session of Commission on Sustainable Development. I associate myself with the statement made by Distinguished Representative of Yemen on behalf of G- 77 and China.

My delegation deeply regrets by not being able to be represent by H.E. Mr. Mohammadi Zadeh, Vice-President of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Head of Department of Environment.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

We are only two years away from Rio + 20 and the entire world is looking at us about what we have done or plan to do for their lively future. I believe that most

of the time of the last two decades, has been utilized by institutional and organizational matters and least dedicated to tangible actions. Few years ago, the global community chanted: "It's Time To Act" of course a very well harmonized and coherent "Action" has long been craved for by all.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

The future starts today. We are all making the future.

Future belongs to all of us here, on earth and generations to come. We have to take care of man's intrinsic needs. Although the three important pillars of "Sustainable Development" have meticulously been identified, but the fourth pillar which stems from human beings need, i.e. "Sustainable Peace and Tranquility", is urgently required to ensure stability & Sustainability of MDGs rooted from Agenda 21. Hence, promoting inner-peace and spiritual values are inevitable.

Transport as highlighted in Chapters 7 & 9 of Agenda 21 is truly considered to be the major driving force behind a growing world demand for energy. It is indeed the largest end-use of energy in developed countries and the fastest growing one in most developing countries in seek of adequate, efficient and environmentally friendly transport system in order to secure basic needs providers in line with MDGs. Transportation needs will undoubtedly increases as this sector has an essentially positive role in economic and social development. One should ensure that these needs are met with the most environmentally friendly alternatives in a challenge to curb increase of GHGs emissions to the atmosphere.

Distinguished Delegates,

The Islamic Republic of Iran, has taken large and strong steps in meeting transportation needs of her people by means of making available cost-effective,

more efficient, less polluting and safer transport systems benefiting from integrated public transportation urban and rural management as well as low-carbon sources of energy such as Natural Gas in the form of CNG, a truly environmentally friendly alternative to all different sources of fossil fuels. This policy has further expanded to accommodate smaller vehicles and although Iran aims to run some 5 million vehicles on clean CNG fuel, however, after 3 years from the start, it currently enjoys some 1.5 millions of Natural Gas Vehicles nation-wide. This plan, coupled with "Fuels Consumption Management Plan" has yielded improved air-quality within vast urban areas, augmenting climate change concerns benefiting the Global Community. Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to share her experience and attractive outcomes with the developing countries.

Dear Colleagues,

Chapter 20 of Agenda 21, calls for "Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Wastes". In my opinion all different kinds of wastes should be effectively controlled for their generation, storage, treatment, recycling, reuse, transport, recovery and final disposal.

Islamic Republic of Iran attaches a paramount importance to "Waste Management" for proper health, environmental protection and natural resource management and sustainable development. Iran has made significant progresses on municipal wastes and is engaged currently on hospital and industrial hazardous wastes neutralization processes.

In this regard, establishing a "Wastes and Chemicals Management Technology Centre" within United Nations System to disseminate information, share technologies and help making a cleaner future today, is proposed.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to see Mining as an integral part of "Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns". These two are in essence rooted in one and human being is the broad interface inter-linking the two. In this area before being able to embark upon the very fantastically devised "10 year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production", what the world seems to be in serious need of are:

- Innovation,
- Entrepreneur development
- Best practices and standards
- Innovative financing schemes,
- And environmental ethics mainstreaming

Undoubtedly, the abovementioned so-called five commandments would be such arranged to support regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production in order to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems, particularly through decoupling economic growth and environmental degradation. You will certainly appreciate the needed innovations in the "developing" process that may ensure an "Environmentally Sound and Bright Future for all".

Thank you Mr. Chairman