

**Statement by H.E. Majid Takht Ravanchi
Permanent Representative**

the complete and immediate lifting of all these measures in order to ensure the full achievement of economic and social development as well as enable targeted countries to effectively protect their populations in the face of COVID-19 and repair their economies while guaranteeing the well-being of their people in the aftermath of the pandemic.

Despite all of the restrictions and pressures caused by the illegal sanctions, the Islamic Republic of Iran has taken concrete steps to reform existing policies, improve the overall sustainability of food systems and ensure food security as well as nutrition for vulnerable populations all around the country. At the same time, the health sector in Iran has undergone significant reforms concerning system policies and services to, among others, achieve the target of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and improve citizens' satisfaction with the health service provision and enhance equity. In this connection, women in particular have been provided with access to all necessary health services, including reproductive health care services along with economic incentives to support female-headed households.

As a Country hosting more than three million refugees, Iran has remained dedicated to its humanitarian commitments and, among other services, have continued to provide the children of undocumented refugees in Iran with the opportunity to receive education in Iranian schools.

As Iranian society faces the prospect of a significant portion of its population ageing in coming decades- in light of previous decades' strong demographic transitions- the Iranian Government has established a National Council for Older Persons in order to provide special attention to the elderly population with the aim to implement related policies and programs. Further, the need for a reliable fertility rate above replacement level has been emphasized by the Government.

I thank you