

Mr. Chairman,

As a semi-arid Country with limited water resources, the Islamic Republic of Iran is experiencing the impact of global climate change with profound consequences. Regional studies show that extreme weather such as floods, droughts, and sand and dust storms have become more frequent and severe in many parts of the world, which are serious threats to human health and the environment. Sand and dust storms directly affect sustainable development and the observation, risk assessment, management and mitigation of sand and dust storms out to be integral part of national and regional efforts towards sustained development. A lot of outstanding efforts have been done by my country at national, regional and international levels dealing with sand and dust storms. We expect the establishment of the regional coordination group in the framework of Unescap regional plan of action on sand and dust storms which was endorsed by Economic and social commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy eighth session, in 2022.

At the same time, the Islamic Republic of Iran is the fifth-largest Country in terms of the number of refugees it hosts. Despite the previously said challenges, more than 5 million Afghan refugees live in Iran for the time being. It is urgent that immediate international assistance is required to fulfill their needs. As a basic need and right, the Islamic Republic of Iran has made great efforts and will continue its endeavors to ensure that everyone has access to clean, safe, and reliable water as well as sanitary facilities.

The special situation of developing countries needs to be better investigated and recognized, providing adequate, timely, and predictable support to developing countries is critical.

Mr. Chairman,

Like other targeted States, the Islamic Republic of Iran is negatively impacted by the inhumane and cruel unilateral coercive measures. The impact of UCMs on people's access to food, water, and healthcare is significant. The SDGs, including access to clean water and sanitation in targeted States, are hampered by the UCMs, with adverse impacts on human rights, particularly the right to development, the right to health, the right to life, and the right to access environmentally friendly technologies. We should consider the concerns of all parties. Developed countries have pledged to support developing countries in the form of financing as well as technology transfer.

the energy system while having elements of sustainability in terms of environmental issues, should focus on other aspects such as affordability and availability. Our climate strategies must always be comprehensive, balanced, inclusive, and fair. Adopting only one or two option strategies and moving in favor of a single energy source leads to energy instability and more energy poverty.

In closing, let me express and underline the Islamic Republic of Iran's readiness to cooperate with other countries at the regional and global levels to accomplish our shared objectives. Our collective efforts must be accompanied by results that have practical guarantees for the sustainable development of developing countries.

I thank you.