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Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Written statement* submitted by Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati Va Salamat Iranian, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[03 February 2020]

* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.



The needs to fight against bioterrorism and unilateral coercive measures (UCM)s

The Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati va Salamat Iranian (JETSSI) expresses its deepest concern towards the blatant violation of the right to life and the right to health of developing nations by economic and industrial powers and draws the attention of the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council (HRC) to these two issues.

Need to fight the food and medicine bioterrorism as one of the most serious tools for crimes against humanity

In the recent decades, the view of the bio-terrorism phenomenon has exited the terrorist and military campaigns limits and any form of planned action which directly or indirectly through threat against physical, food and environmental security of a society is endangered in the short and long-term, is deemed as a form of bio-terrorism. With this view, citizens of developing countries are threatened by acts of bio-terrorism by industrial countries and military superpowers, which at times is the result of citizens' lack of awareness and planners or weak laws of these countries and the profit-seeking approach of superpowers.

One of the biggest and most serious examples of bioterrorism in the world is the matter of transgenic produce. These are products made by big food and medicine companies, which are genetically modified so they can produce on a larger scale and subsequently increase in sales and profit for companies, factories and big capitalist countries. Furthermore, transgenic produce cannot be procreated, planted and harvested and this causes dependency on food and medicine producing companies and or countries that produce transgenic produce. It must be said that transgenic produce cause serious effects on the heart, stomach, brain and bones, the genetic and genome system of humans, and by entering the body cause numerous ailments and even set conditions for various forms of cancer to appear.

In view of its mission which is the realization of a culture of healthy food and healthy and natural produce, JETSSI deems these actions of developed countries and food and medicine companies as examples of crimes against humanity and calls on the international community to adopt instruments for the fight, prohibition and restriction on the production of transgenic produce.

JETSSI calls on the United Nations' HRC and the Special Rapporteur on right to health to deem bio-terrorism as a serious threat to the right to life and health of the people in targeted countries of this phenomenon and highlight this important point in their reports.

Also JETSSI calls upon the HRC to recognize bio-terrorism as one of the blatant forms of terrorism and review and question the powers and superpowers responsible for the phenomena.

The need to fight against unilateral coercive measures (UCM)s as tools for violation of the right to health of citizens

Right to health has been recognized in the international human rights system as one of the most fundamental rights. According to international documents, States are accountable for their citizens in the provision and safeguarding of this right. States are also accountable for the citizens of other States' right to health, and their actions must not cause harm to the citizens of other countries. Comprehensive unilateral sanctions as well as having countless negative impacts on State's general policies and plans, directly and indirectly threaten the Iranian citizens' right to health, which is contrary to the universal principles and values of human rights.

JETSSI deems unilateral coercive measures of western countries through imposition of sanctions against the Islamic Republic of Iran (Iran) as clear examples of violation of right to health; because most food and medicines are not imported in the country and result in financial and physical damages and drop in the health levels of the Iranian society. For example a lot of infants and children require special anti-allergy powdered milk, and some

infants who have allergies can digest them better. With the launch of comprehensive unilateral sanctions, these powdered milks have either stopped being imported to Iran and or their price has sharply increased, therefore the families of these children are not able to get this product. This lack of access, causes rise in immune system sicknesses, allergies and digestion problems, negatively affects the growth and weight of some Iranian infants and children which seriously threatens the children's right to health.

Thus, JETSSI, urges for food and medicines sanctions – particularly the critical powdered milk matter – to be lifted, so that these items can be imported into Iran.

While condemning the use of comprehensive unilateral coercive measures as a form of economic war, this Organization calls on the HRC to create compensation mechanisms in order to prevent source States from using these measures against target States.
