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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

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.

[27 January 2021]

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



Unilateral Coercive Measures Violate Human Rights

Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCMs) that target all economic, social and cultural rights in target countries negatively affect the access to medicine and medical care.

The human rights and humanitarian impact of UCMs are widely condemned and criticized in the United Nations (UN) reports¹ and statements² that refer to UCMs as “unjust and harmful”³ measures, that create “de facto blockades”⁴ for target countries; are considered as “economic warfare”⁵ and measures that are “deadly during the pandemic”⁶; they are also considered as sources of “man-made humanitarian catastrophes”⁷ among other negative assessments. It is widely believed that UCMs violate all human rights especially the right to health and access to medicine and medical care. Numerous UN reports⁸ and resolutions⁹ call on sanctioning countries to lift the sanctions that jeopardize human lives, however the repeated calls fall on deaf ears.

Recommendations

Our organization requests the Human Rights Council to continue its previous calls on sanctioning countries to lift all unilateral sanctions that affect people’s access to medicine and medical care especially during the pandemic.

In line with the UN Human Rights Council reports and resolutions, our organization condemns the negative impact of unilateral sanctions on human rights especially the right to health and the right to access medicine and calls on the Special Procedures mandate holders to study the effect of UCMs on people’s human rights in all target countries, within the scope of their mandates, and report the findings to the Human Rights Council.

Also, our organization calls on the Human Rights Council to offer more support to the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, in order to eliminate the impact of unilateral sanctions on human rights.

¹ www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/UCM/Pages/Reports.aspx.

² www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=26393&LangID=E.

³ www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23469&LangID=E.

⁴ A/HRC/39/54; A/HRC/42/46.

⁵ A/74/165; A/HRC/42/46; A/HRC/39/54.

⁶ www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=26155&LangID=E.

⁷ www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25769&LangID=E.

⁸ A/75/209; A/74/165; A/HRC/42/46; A/HRC/39/54.

⁹ A/HRC/RES/24/14; A/HRC/RES/30/2; A/HRC/RES/34/13; A/RES/71/193.