

# Islamic Republic of I R A N

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

(Please check against delivery)

Statement by

**Mr. M. Gholi Fard**, Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran

At the High Level Meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations

On the Tenth Anniversary of the Adoption of the International Declaration and Program of Action on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

New York, Thursday, 22 September 2011

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

~~Distinguished Chairman of the Panel, Distinguished Panelists~~

Ladies and Gentlemen,

~~the success of such an event is only possible due to the selfless and so-called despite stone-walling behavior of a few made possible holding of such an event on the tenth anniversary of the adoption of Durban Declaration and Program of Action (known as DDPA), yet one of the richest record of achievement of humanity in today's world against racism and racial discrimination.~~

Ladies and Gentlemen,

~~the international Conference on Combating racism, eradicating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and~~  
in today's world, on several aspects:

~~first, after centuries of living with humiliation, suffering and injustice at the level of slavery, apartheid and now forms of colonialism and of economic exploitation, the international community determined to hold a global conference and the Palestinian Occupied Territory the international society with the highest level of worldwide participation, in the new Durban, just being itself exonerated from the scourge of apartheid;~~

~~second, the civil societies and non-governmental organizations actively participated along with the States in the struggle against spiteful racism and racial discrimination, and proved their significance in the fight against the human rights violations;~~

Their relations of the DPPA remains as the network of active members of States in their struggle against all classic and new forms and manifestations of racism and social discrimination.

**Ladies and Gentlemen, Fellow Colleagues**

Maintenance and upholding of the achievements of the Durban Conference is not only a moral obligation but also a political one. At this important juncture for all of us, we must identify our strong points and address the pitfalls.

Efforts carried out by certain States to undermine the levels of participation at this conference have not only been a major setback but also a challenge to the very foundation of human rights and democracy vis-a-vis the most heinous violations of human rights.

support those Palestinians been victims of such state-racism in the Occupied Territories.

Referring to our recollections on the support of such States of the racist Regime of apartheid in South Africa, their reactions to this conference were not unpredictable. Nevertheless, such reactions again is a clear-cut indication of the hypocritical behavior of phony claimants of human rights and their

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

One of the most crucial themes reaffirmed during the Durban process is "Respect for Cultural Diversity". Unfortunately in today's world, the blatant manifestations of racism and racial discrimination are not eliminated, but we are also witnessing, on a daily basis, new forms and manifestations of this inhuman behavior. Continued existence of state apartheid in the Palestinian occupied territories, aggravation of Islamophobia and violation of the rights of Muslim minorities, racist approach towards migrants and even indigenous people, colored skins and ethnical minorities, politicians and practitioners in certain countries, an internet rekindles the concerns about this new wave of racism.

In conclusion, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to offer that the effective solution in addressing racism and social discrimination is primarily the abandonment of the discriminatory, double standard, selective and politically oriented behavior, than the collective determination and mobilization of all States, individuals, governmental or non-governmental entities, in the fight against racism and social discrimination, and finally an emphasis on the implementation and strengthening of Durban Conference Documents as the most valuable human achievements.