Statement by:

H.E Dr. M.Shafie-Pour

Vice-Head of Department of environment on International Affairs of The Islamic Republic of Iran

"On Consumption and production patterns"

During
the High-Level Segment of the Eighteenth Session of the

Commission on Sustainable Development

United Nations Headquarters, New York

12-14 May, 2010

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Madam. Co-Chair,

Excellencies;

Ladies and Gentlemen;

I would like to thank the panelists for their contributions. I associate myself with the statement made by the representative of Singapore on behalf of G-77 and China.

Sustainable Consumption and production patterns are influenced by social values, technological developments and urbanization. As creatures of habits, human being tends to resist changes that may instantly not look for the better.

Sustainable development involves change, indeed a wave of change in the behavior of producers and consumers in the allocation of resources among users that must take place over time. This meeting provides a new opportunity for countries to take the lead in making their patterns of consumption and production more sustainable, and based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as well as the high-income countries pay principle, to actively address the concerns of developing nations in their efforts to achieve sustainable development goals. Can we talk about economic trends without considering the unjust, unequal and

unsustainable consumption patterns in some of developed countries? Over consumption of commodities and food in the industrialized world is considered being important contributor to the deterioration of the environment and enhances inequalities and social conflict. The 20 per cent of the population in the highest-income countries accounted for 77 per cent of total private consumption in 2005, while the poorest 20 accounted for only 1.3 per cent. Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) is about reducing our environmental impacts, while maintaining or improving economic outputs and standards of living. Subsidies are also key players on development of sustainable production and consumption patterns. Currently most of subsidies in the world are working against