

**Statement by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran**  
**Before**  
**the Thirtieth Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal**  
**Justice**  
**on Agenda Item 6 (a):**  
**Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against**  
**Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto**  
**(17-21 May 2021-Vienna)**

*In the name of God, the Compassionate, the merciful*

**Mr. Chair,**

Allow me to commence by expressing my gratitude for your efforts in leading this session as well as the Secretariat's dedication in ensuring appropriate organization of the meeting.

**Mr. Chair,**

Transnational organized crimes remain among the daunting challenges that the international community faces, as such increasingly diversifying crimes continue to have negative implications and detrimental effects on the economy and security of societies. Cognizant of the urgent need to enhance international cooperation to prevent and combat such criminal activities, we deem the Commission an appropriate and important framework addressing this pressing challenge. We are of the view that the Commission could play a significant role in ensuring the rule of law at the international level by reinforcing efforts of Member States in countering the perils of organized criminal activities through denying safe havens to organized criminal groups and bringing them to justice. To this end, we are supportive of genuine collective responses under the auspices of the Commission to such criminal phenomena.

**Mr. Chair,**

The Islamic Republic of Iran has intensified its efforts in fighting organized criminal activities by adopting judicial, legal and administrative measures and expanding its cooperation and coordination with its partners at the regional and international level for the purpose of countering various forms of crime such as trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrant, cybercrime and money-laundering. Despite serious challenges and impediments that have negatively affected the fight against transnational organized crime, in particular the Unilateral Coercive Measures which are flagrant violation of the fundamental principles of international law, we have maintained our decisive role in combating transnational organized crime in the region and beyond. This is self-evident, as our law enforcement and judiciary interdict and prosecute organized criminal groups, particularly human traffickers and migrant smugglers on a daily basis who could otherwise have been able to pursue their illegitimate objectives beyond the borders of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

**Mr. Chair,**

We would like to reaffirm the primary role and responsibility of Member States in preventing and combating crimes in particular transnational organized crimes and further reaffirm that the efforts at the international level in the fight against such crimes should be in accordance and consistent with the purpose and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the fundamental principles of international law, especially, sovereign equality and non-intervention as well as territorial integrity of Member States. We stress that the fight against transnational organized crimes should be free of politicization and be pursued in a cooperative and technical context, so as to send an unambiguous signal to criminals all over the world that they will be brought to justice.

**Mr. Chair**

We would like to highlight the importance of denying organized criminal groups of proceeds of crime and removing any incentive for recidivism, since such proceeds constitute a driving force for these illegal groups to expand their malicious activities and recruit more criminals. For this purpose, we invite Member States to provide wide measures of assistance to each other concerning seizure, confiscation,

recovery and return of proceeds of transnational organized crimes to not only counter organized criminal groups in an effective manner but also to ensure protection of rights of victims for restitution and compensation.

At the end, we reiterate our commitment in preventing and combating transnational organized crimes and look forward to the works of the Commission in ensuring a favorable environment for enhancing cooperation among Member States in this scourge.

**I thank you.**