



## **ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
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**Statement by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran**

**Before**

**The CCPCJ Thematic Discussion on the Implementation of the Kyoto  
Declaration**

**Thematic Session 2: Addressing the Economic Dimension of Crime**

**(10-12 November 2021, Vienna)**

## **In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful**

**Mr. Chair,**

Allow me to express my gratitude to the distinguished panelist for the presentation delivered.

**Mr. Chair,**

As regard the economic dimensions of crime, I would like to recall paragraph 24 of the Kyoto Declaration which emphasizes the development and implementation of effective measures to deprive criminals and criminal organizations of any illicit gains through, *inter alia*, identifying, tracing, seizing, confiscating, recovering and returning proceeds of crime.

We are all cognizant of the fact that one of the *raison d'être* of confiscation and recovery of assets and proceeds of crime is to provide effective deterrence against crimes and criminals and eliminate incentives for perpetration of crimes; In other words, it is to send an unequivocal message to criminals that crime does not pay. Absence of effective measures for recovery and return of proceeds of crime emboldens criminals to expand their criminal networks and also induces recidivism which in turn undermines efforts in the field of crime prevention.

**Distinguished Colleagues,**

Recovery and return of assets and proceeds of crime is also inextricably linked with the rights of victims, in particular, their right to effective remedy and compensations. It has been long established in criminal law that fair restitution and compensations should be made to victims who include the return of property. Return of assets and proceeds play a central role in reparation and compensation of the damages and losses inflicted. It goes without saying that non-repatriation of such assets to the countries of origin has also a negative impact on the enjoyment of the right to development.

In the light of the above, I would like to emphasize the importance of effective measures for recovery and return of proceeds of crimes and that the Kyoto Declaration constitutes a significant means for renewing our commitments in this area to which end removing barriers for repatriation of these assets to the countries of origin should be the cornerstone of such measures.

**I thank you Mr. Chairperson.**