



*Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations
28, chemin du Petit-Saconnex / 1209 Geneva*

Statement

Delivered by

**H.E. Mr. Alireza Moaiyeri, Ambassador, Permanent
Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran**

At the

**Plenary Meeting
of the**

Conference on Disarmament

(in response to the statement of the German Delegation, delivered on behalf of EU)

Geneva 24 January, 2007



Madam President,

As it is the first time my delegation takes the floor under your presidency, at the outset, I would like to congratulate you on your assumption of the presidency of the Conference of Disarmament and assure you of my delegation's full support and cooperation.

Madam President,

I take the floor in exercise of my delegation's right of reply to react to the references made to my country in the course of today's meeting by the representative of Germany on behalf of the European Union and would like to make the following points:

We have already reiterated that due to the technicalities of Iran's case, we do not believe the CD to be the appropriate body to deal with the issue. Iran has worked closely with the International Atomic Energy Agency, during the course of the last three years, to deal with the issues and questions raised about its peaceful nuclear program.

All States Party to the NPT, without discrimination, have an inalienable right to produce nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. As this right is "inalienable", it can not be undermined or curtailed under any pretext. Any attempt to do so, would be an attempt to undermine a pillar of the treaty and indeed the treaty itself.

Iran, like any other Non Nuclear Weapon State, has no obligation to negotiate and seek agreement for the exercise of its inalienable right, nor can it be obligated to suspend it. However, Iran agreed to suspend its enrichment activities voluntarily, as it preferred a political agreement which could serve positively in the broader political spectrum and particularly in our troubled and volatile region.

Iran did suspend its enrichment activities precisely for the sake of confidence building. The question remains, though, how does one measure confidence and where is the limit of confidence

building? Is confidence building a pretext for depriving Iran of its inalienable right under the NPT?

Madam President,

Iran commits itself to its NPT obligations. We believe Security Council is not the right place to discuss Iran's nuclear issue. The right place is at the IAEA.

Madam President,

This brief remark was just to exercise my delegation's right of reply. We will present our national positions on issues related to the work of the Conference on Disarmament in the future.

I thank you Madam.