

**Explanation of Vote by the Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran
on the draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Convention on Cluster Munitions"
at the First Committee of the 70th Session of the General Assembly**

New York, 4 November 2015

In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

I would like to explain the position of my delegation on the draft resolution L.49/Rev. 1, entitled "Implementation of Convention on Cluster Munitions".

As a general principle, we participate in all efforts, within the framework of the United Nations, aimed at minimizing the humanitarian impact of the use of certain conventional weapons or munitions. At the same time, we believe such efforts need to be inclusive and transparent and should be pursued with the equal participation of all States.

It is worth noting in this regard that negotiation on disarmament issues, due to their nature which deals with such important issues as the security concerns and interests of States, requires a balanced and comprehensive approach, a progressive, transparent and all-inclusive process, and a consensual decision-making procedure "to ensure the right of each State to security and to ensure that no individual State or group of States may obtain advantages over others at any stage" as stressed in the SSOD-I Final Document. We strongly believe that this can be done only through the United Nations disarmament machinery as established by the SSOD-I.

We continue to share the view of many delegations that, the process leading to the conclusion of Cluster Munitions Convention, by bypassing the United Nations disarmament machinery, disregarded the interests of many States.

Circumventing the United Nations disarmament machinery and later on, bringing an instrument which was negotiated and concluded in an exclusive process outside this machinery, is neither acceptable nor in line with the objectives of the United Nations. Therefore, we believe such a process should not be encouraged or promoted by the UNGA.

During the 63rd and 64th Session of the UNGA, delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran joined the consensus on the adoption of resolutions 63/71 and 64/36 on the "Convention on Cluster Munitions" merely on the basis of their procedural nature.

However, this year, my delegation vote abstention on the draft Resolution on "Implementation of Convention on Cluster Munitions", mainly due to the fact that it is of substantive nature and, *inter alia*, calls for the implementation of the Cluster Munitions Convention - an instrument that my country did not participate in its negotiation, and accordingly is neither a party nor a signatory thereto.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.