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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by Family Health Association of Iran, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[24 January 2024]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



The Adverse Effect of Sanctions on the Nutrition and Health of Iranian People

The Article 25 of the Declaration of Human Rights states that every person has the right to have sufficient standards of living in terms of health and well-being for himself and his family. Article 29 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran also emphasizes the issue of the right to health, but unfortunately unilateral and multilateral sanctions of the United States of America and other Western governments and the United Nations Security Council has affected all aspects of the Iranian people's lives. In such a way that it has caused the violation of human rights of the Iranian people.

We have heard many times from Western governments that sanctions do not include food, medicine and medical equipment, while we see that banking sanctions have caused many problems for the health of Iranian people and millions of Afghan immigrants living in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Sanctions have adversely affected the prerequisites and indicators of the right to health in various fields, including industry and food security, import of raw materials and agricultural products, including livestock products, oil seeds, supply of machinery for production, supply of medicines and medical equipment.

International banking sanctions for economic exchanges have caused a decrease in imports and the scarcity and increase in the price of some food and medicine items, especially for special patients.

Unfortunately, due to the sanctions the Academic centers, NGOs and the private sectors cannot receive advisory, scientific exchanges and financial supports from international organizations.

The United States of America's sanctions and its negative impacts have challenged the course of commercial and financial exchanges for the purchase, transfer and distribution of food and medicine.

Commercial partners and foreign banks consider any transactions with Islamic Republic of Iran as a risk. Sanctions have caused timely allocation and credit openings to not be carried out, sanctions on transportation system and financial exchange costs for purchase, transfer, cargo insurance premiums to be increased and access to food and medicine face to challenge.

Sanctions are actually a hidden form of full-scale war due to the harmful effects it has on human health. A war not with bombs and bullets, but through the reduction and lack of access to food, medicines and health services, which leads to illness and death of people, and this is all contrary to the International Human Rights Law.
