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

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to explain the position of my delegation regarding draft resolution on “Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction” as contained in document A/C.1/67/L.29.

As a State Party to the Convention, the Islamic Republic of Iran joined the consensus in adopting this draft resolution.

Nevertheless, my delegation is dissatisfied with the content of the draft resolution and believes that despite extensive changes in size and substance of this draft resolution, due to the selective approach by the sponsor, it does not reflect consensual Final Document of the 7th Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention in a comprehensive and balanced manner. In some cases, even the language of the Final Document of the 7th BWC Review Conference has been selected and modified in an unacceptable manner.

For instance, while in reference to Article 10 of the Convention on international cooperation and assistance - as the most interested aspect for developing States Parties - the Conference, in paragraphs 51 and 53 of its Final Document “Recognizes the fundamental importance of enhancing international cooperation, assistance and exchange in biological sciences and technology for peaceful purposes” and “Reaffirms the commitment to the full and
comprehensive implementation of this Article by all States Parties” and also “Urges all States Parties possessing advanced biotechnology to adopt positive measures to promote technology transfer and international cooperation on an equal and non-discriminatory basis, particularly with countries less advanced in this field”, this draft resolution in its preambular paragraph 6 and operative paragraph 7, only refers to “the importance of ongoing efforts by States Parties to enhance international cooperation” and “Encourages States Parties to provide, at least biannually, appropriate information on their implementation of article X”.

We believe that adoption of selective approach in revising draft resolution on such an important issue, in particular following a successful Review Conference and adoption of a consensual Final Document, is unconstructive.

My delegation constructively engaged in the informal consultations on the draft resolution and while showing maximum flexibility in regard to the proposed texts by the sponsor and others, put forward concrete proposals taken exactly from the Final Document of 7th Review Conference, but unfortunately in the case of issues related to international cooperation and assistance they have not been taken into account by the sponsor of the draft resolution.

At the same time as we appreciate the efforts of sponsor, we hope that next year more efforts would be exerted to revise the draft resolution in a balanced manner.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that this draft resolution is acceptable for my delegation only to the extent that is in line with the Convention and Final Document of the 7th Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.