Mr. Chairman,

My delegation associates itself with the NAM statement delivered by Indonesia.

In his recent speech at the UNGA President Rouhani warned that our Middle East region is on the edge of collapse, as a single blunder can fuel a big fire. The source of this tense situation goes back to various factors, among which the US military presence and Israel’s aggressive acts stand on top.

The US main regional objectives are to secure military bases, to sell more weaponry and to facilitate Israeli regime’s aggression and occupation. While it pretends to support some regional countries, the recent incidents show how its reckless regional policy cause insecurity and instability in the region.

The Middle East region will become secure only when U.S. troops withdraw. Regional peace and stability can be guaranteed only by the region’s countries, not through U.S. intervention or its economic terrorism. The US aggressive policy in the Middle East has claimed the life of hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians. The U.S. has been a force for bad and for death and destruction. For too long, they have made the wrong choices in our region and then have blamed others, particularly Iran.

The US role in creating and assisting terrorist groups and using them as a proxy against the independent countries of the region has resulted in catastrophes.

Likewise, Israel tries to increase hostility and chaos among the Middle Eastern countries. Since its inception, this regime has been constantly engaged in brutal and illegal occupation, brazen terrorism, military aggression and committing all kinds of international crimes with the backing of the U.S. Israel is the main source and cause of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. It refuses to accede to any international instrument banning WMD and mocks the credibility of such instruments that form the components of international security architecture.
The main lesson of the recent developments in the Middle East is that security shall not be achieved with American weapons and security cannot be purchased from foreign governments.

The regional countries should rely on their collective security collaborations. Iran’s proposal for a Coalition for Hope, or the Hormuz Peace Initiative, under the U.N. umbrella, is to involve Middle Eastern countries in security cooperation.

Unless there is a collective effort to bring inclusive peace and security to the Middle East in general and the Persian Gulf sub-region in particular, we will be engulfed in turmoil. Iran is committed to fulfilling its responsibility in contributing to the preservation of peace and security in these two strategic regions of the world.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.