

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Golam Ali Khoshroo  
Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to  
the United Nations Organization  
At the Forty Ninth Session of  
The Commission on Population and Development  
Items 4: General debate on national experience in population  
matters: “Strengthening the demographic evidence base for  
the post-2015 development agenda”  
(New York, 11 -15 April 2016)**

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

**Madam Chairperson,**

Taking advantage of the demographic trends for the post-2015 development agenda requires attention to all aspects of overall socio-economic development as combating poverty through empowering poor, disadvantaged people and those living in

vulnerable situations, remains a daunting challenge.

The achievement of this objective requires further strides towards equitably distributing benefits of economic growth to redress inequalities. Essential social services should be integral parts of all policies to eradicate poverty.

Culturally-sensitive, pragmatic and holistic population policies with a development oriented approach are essential.

Over 31 per cent of Iran's 80 million population is between 15 to 29 years old and this very young demographic profile represents an opportunity for rapid economic growth. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, remains fully

improve citizens' satisfaction with health service provision and enhance equity.

According to the Human Development Report Iran has gained the second best achievement in HDI improvement among developing countries between 1990-2012 or since introduction of the Report.

**Madam Chairperson,**

The economic and social impact of an ageing population represents both an opportunity and a challenge to all societies. Many countries are seeking to identify how best to assist elderly people with long- term support.

As Iran is also heading towards an ageing society in coming decades- in light of last decades strong demographic transitions-