

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

***Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentleman,***

*At the outset I would like to express my happiness for being among Your Excellencies in this historic event. Let me also extend my sincere appreciation to the conveners of this important meeting for their unsparing efforts.*

***Excellencies,***

*The adoption of the roadmap on education for the next 15 years is included in the agenda of this historic event coinciding with the seventieth anniversary of the adoption of UNESCO's Constitution. On this occasion, let me borrow an inspiring key sentence enshrined in the Constitution of UNESCO which has an important relevance to our work today and I quote: "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed". I personally think that the best path towards the realization of this intellectual idea all around the globe is education.*

*As the UN Secretary-General as well as some other participants rightly mentioned in their remarks during World Education Forum 2015 (WEF) in Incheon, education is an important tool against the rise of violent extremism. I firmly believe that with the help of education, we can promote the idea of the "World Against Violence and Extremism" (WAVE) proposed by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the UN General Assembly and adopted by consensus.*

***Dear colleagues***

*Confirming the extraordinary role of education as a cross cutting and multi dimensional concept, the Millennium Development Goals rightly focused on the education. Now, 15 years passed from those days with its ups and downs and we have come together in this meeting to set a new roadmap for education for another 15 years.*

*The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes the Framework for Action Education 2030 (FFA) in principle and believes that there exist proper and valuable grounds for deep as well as widespread cooperation in national, regional and international levels aimed at the promotion of quality education for all. Almost the same visions, rationales, principles and goals reiterated in the Framework for Action Education 2030 are in a way or another reflected in the "National Document for Fundamental Reform of the Educational System" of the Islamic Republic of Iran. But at the same time, to avoid any possible*



*contradiction between the context of FFA with the national legislations and priorities, religious beliefs and cultural values of the societies, I would like to request that the reservation of the Islamic Republic of Iran on some parts of the "Framework for Action Education 2030" presented during the "World Education Forum 2015" in Incheon, the text of which, would be submitted to the Secretariat, be included in the relevant documents of this meeting.*

*It is to be noted that the "National Document for Fundamental Reform of the Educational System" which is enforced from 2014 has many things in common with the FFA. Here let me briefly refer to some of those commonalities: Quality and equitable education for boys and girls, due attention to the gender equality, early childhood care and education, promotion of literacy and eradication of illiteracy, providing proper and relevant technical and vocational education and training, lifelong learning, knowledge acquisition and promotion of a vision for creating a sustainable society free from violence, paying due attention to the diversity of cultures and cooperation in line with the sustainable development, educational equity with the provision of equal opportunities, emphasizing on 12 years free of charge quality education and many other subjects.*

*Those commonalities also can be found in the long-term development perspective of the Islamic Republic of Iran which covers the period 2015 to 2025 and divided into two 5-year development plan. The first period between 2015 and 2020 in which, the 6<sup>th</sup> development plan is going to be implemented coincides with the adoption and implementation of the Framework for Action Education 2030. This would be a good opportunity for the implementation of relevant national plans on the promotion and development of the education section in line with the objectives and strategic approaches put forward in the Framework for Action.*

***Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,***

*Concluding my statement, I would like to remind our collective responsibility vis-à-vis education, and emphasize that my country is ready to cooperate with other members of UNESCO so that the targets of the Framework for Action would be realized. The Islamic Republic of Iran is also ready to share its valuable experiences with other countries in order to enhance the cause of education worldwide. I hope this important event would take effective steps towards the realization of the education goals worldwide.*

*Thank you Mr. Chairman*



*In the Name of God, the Compassionate*

***Reservation of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Framework for  
Action Education 2030***

*“The Islamic Republic of Iran is not committed to those parts of the Framework for Action Education 2030 that might in one way or another be interpreted as contradictory to the national legislations and priorities, religious beliefs and cultural values of the Iranian society”.*