

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Abbas Bagherpour Ardekani
 Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of
 the Islamic Republic of Iran
 13th Session of the Universal Periodic Review UPR
 On South Africa
 Geneva, 31 May 2012**

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

Madam President

The Islamic republic of Iran welcomes the delegation of South Africa and appreciates it for its well prepared and comprehensive national report.

Since the 1st UPR cycle, the Government has taken different policies and practices to protect and promote human rights at the national level and has had a constrictive contribution at the international level as well.

At the national level, South Africa has successfully accelerated the implementation of existing relevant legislations and programs including through introducing various initiatives which have had a positive impact on quality of the life of the whole nation in particular in health insurance, food security, primary education and access to higher education.

In this regard, we would like to offer the following recommendations to the Government of South Africa:

1. To reinforce its efforts to prevent and combat racism , racial discrimination, xenophobia and other related intolerance in particular against foreigner
2. To strengthen its educational strategies to ensure that all children enroll in school and receive basic education.
3. To enhance its health care measures and policies with an aim to reduce the prevalence child mortality and HIV AIDS rates.

Thank you
