**POSITION PAPER FOR HUMUN'24 UNDP COMMITTEE**

**Country :** The Islamic Republic of Iran (جمهوری اسلامی ایران)

**Committee** : UNDP (United Nations Development Programme)

**Delegate** : Cansu AKBORI

Iran , known as Persia until 1935 who is managing the government by the sheiks , Iran became a theocracy country in 1979 and started to be known as the The Islamic Republic of Iran .Today's country has a religious legal system based on secular and Islamic law. Currently, the president of the country has been Ebrahim RAISI since June 18, 2021, and the post of First Vice President has been held by Mohammad MOKHBER since August 8, 2021.The country's capital is Tehran. According to 2023 data, there is a population of 87,590,873 in the country, and the capital Tehran constitutes 8,694 million of this population, based on 2016 data.Persian Farsi (official), Azeri and other Turkic dialects, Kurdish, Gilaki and Mazandarani, Luri, Balochi, Arabic are the mostly used language in the country.It located in the Middle East, bordering the Gulf of Oman, the Persian Gulf, and the Caspian Sea, between Iraq and Pakistan.The total surface area of the country is 1,648,195 km².When compared in terms of size,we can say that Iran is almost 2.5 times the size of Texas and slightly smaller than Alaska.

***I.Quality Education Interruptions Due to Territorial Disputes in the Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) Region***

According to the information announced on September 17, 2023 and presented by the Iranian regime, more than 9 million people in the country are illiterate and 970 thousand girls and boys in the possible school age range are not enrolled in school.

In an article about Iran published in Al-Sharq newspaper on September 10, 2023, it was stated that "the rate of children dropping out of education is high", and the accuracy of this statement has increased with the data and statistics presented by the Iranian regime.

 And it has been suggested by the article that this rate will increase with some recent terrorist conflicts. Especially the Pakistan-Iran tensions that took place recently (January 19, 2024) were sensationally heard around the world, and even brought about rumors that World War 3 would break out, and this current situation in the country reminded people of some events in Iranian history;

Hasan Sabbah is a famous assassin who lived in Iran in the 11th and 12th centuries and has been the subject of many historical studies. During his time, he wanted to prepare a group of assassins who would adopt his own ideas and thoughts, and he made the Alamut Castle, which is used as a touristic tour area in Iran today (Eagle's Nest), as a base. In order to establish the army he wanted during his time, he deceived children at the age of development with different brainwashing methods, both with drugs and religiously, such as the "promise of heaven", and encouraged them to commit terrorism and assassination. Depending on this researchers express concern about history repeating itself. Education, which is one of the most fundamental rights of every human being, is faced with some regime problems in the country, conflicts regarding equality between men and women, the difficulties of its geopolitical location, as well as terrorist incidents, as in many Middle Eastern countries Lastly, with the depreciation of the exchange rate due to the reforms in the state financial institutions and the uncertainty of international investments, inflation gradually increased and as a result, poverty also

increased.Poverty has now resulted in 3 to 7 million children having to work under difficult conditions to earn money or contribute to their families' livelihoods and falling behind in their education. Unfortunately, this number increases every day. Iran, which has not yet been very successful in raising the education level of its own citizens, undertook 30% of the migration as a result of the entry of the Taliban into Afghanistan in 2021 and received approximately 780 refugees in the country. According to the news published by the Independent in 2023, many Afghan children were not even registered by the state and were deprived of education.

***II.Development of Nuclear Energy and lt’s Effects on Environmental Matters***

Iran is a country that does not currently have any nuclear weapons, but has the potential to produce them and has brought about many discussions as a result.In 2015, negotiations were held with the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, the UK, USA, China, France, Russia and Germany, and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) was signed.However, Iran, which started to have difficult times economically in 2018 due to the US withdrawing from the plan with the Donald Trump administration and increasing economic sanctions, was beware of Joe Biden becoming the US president in 2020 and increasing sanctions and Iran caused great confusion during this period because it enriched uranium and did not comply with the terms of the agreement.In the speech of Intelligence Minister Seyyed Mahmud Alevi on state television on February 8, 2021, Alevi said, "Our nuclear activities are peaceful, and the fatwa of the Revolutionary Guide (Khamenei) also declared that nuclear weapons are haram. Although under normal conditions , Iran has such an intention and but If they push Iran in that direction even if it doesn't have a program, then it won't be Iran's fault but the fault of those pushing it in that direction." He used the following expressions: Thereupon, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said at the cabinet meeting on February 17, "We have said it many times before. There is and will not be a place for weapons of mass destruction such as nuclear bombs in our country's defense program. This is the definitive decision of the state." said .For sure, it is not possible for the Minister of Intelligence of the country to make such a statement without consulting the President in a country governed by a Theocracy and the fact that days have passed since his speech and that Alevi did not need to remake his speech despite the reactions was proof that he did not make a random speech.Following the increase in Iran's nuclear power, representatives of the USA, the UN and the EU held another negotiation in Vienna in April 2021, and the purpose of the talks was determined as ensuring Iran's full implementation of the nuclear agreement and discussing the US's return to the agreement. The debates, which continued for a year, were interrupted by the start of the Russia-Ukraine War. Although Iran declared that nuclear weapons are haram with the fatwas given but for International relations expert Erdistani said, "However, religious fatwas may change according to the requirements of the time. Khamenei may declare nuclear weapons haram at a certain period of time and may change this fatwa as the conditions change." He increased the possibilities even further by speaking like this. Currently, on January 26, 2023, Rafael Mariano Grossi, President of the International Atomic Energy Agency, said at a press conference: "They have now accumulated enough nuclear materials for not one, but several nuclear weapons. They have 70 kilograms of uranium enriched to 60 percent."He acknowledged that Tehran's stockpile of highly enriched uranium has grown significantly. Iran is currently a country that has the capacity to produce 5 nuclear weapons. According to many political commentators, it is too late for discussions and cannot be kept under control of Iran with any sanctions. Although the permitted limit is 202.8 kilograms, it has a stockpile of 4 thousand 744.5 kilograms of uranium ,now our country is strong on this field .