100th Session of the International Labor Conference, Geneva, 13th June 2011

Speech of the Employer's delegate, Mohammad Otaredian (Mr.), from the I. R. of Iran

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The past decade has seen the increasing penetration of instability in global life—in rising energy and food prices, unanswered joblessness, and the numbers of internationally mobile refugees, all of which could still epitomize the ongoing global crisis and imbalances.

If there is going to be a new era for Social justice, as the ILO Director General's report is titled, there is a need for an overarching awareness that global landscape is changing away from the old model dominated by the rich countries.

Whatever else we learn from the crisis, this much is clear: "in order to scrap world's social unfairness, global economic management can no longer afford to neglect the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

In the context of inclusive development and social justice, reducing poverty is critical to addressing social unfairness and correcting imbalances.

We single out unstable and socially unacceptable unemployment levels around the world as the root cause of poverty and the most serious challenge facing the global justice. Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In order to achieve inclusive and sustainable growth, we believe, social protection needs to be strengthened alongside economic policies to spread the benefits of growth to all segments of society.

In my country, the I. R. of Iran, the target-oriented subsidies plan, aimed at overhauling the country's economy by shelving energy and food subsidies, is of the important measures taken by the government in the field of economy. Execution of justice in fair distribution of subsidies between various strata of society with different revenues is of salient significations of the plan.

We believe execution of this great plan, through tripartite dialogue could contribute to realization of country program on decent work in Iran.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In this global economic uncertainty, conflict and violence in the Middle East and North Africa are holding back global growth.

In such circumstances, when everything is contaminated with politics, ILO—as a technical and non-political organization must maintain its integrity and reliability.

Along with other UN agencies, ILO needs to set the foundation for a world free from intolerance and injustice, where the powerful is accountable and vulnerable is protected, in a way that nobody could be regarded as a second rate human being in deserving human rights.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

With vision, commitment and cooperative leadership the world has the capacity and means to establish maximum justice within itself, which is aligned with ILO priorities.

We value the ILO campaign in breaking entrenched cycle of discrimination and injustice, while hoping for a dignified life for all around the world.

Let's make the future with decent work for all.

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you.