Statement by

H. E. Ambassador Gholamhossein Dehghani,
Deputy Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran
to the United Nations
at the General Debate of the
2nd Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations
Friday, 11 October 2013
==========

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished colleagues,

Please allow me, at the outset, to join the others in congratulating Your Excellency and the other members of the Bureau for your election and assure you of the fullest support of my delegation in discharge of your mandates.

I would also like to associate myself with the statement made under this agenda item by the distinguished Permanent Representative and Ambassador of Fiji on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

There is no doubt that we are now at a very important juncture; on the one hand we have almost 800 days for the implementation of our commitments under the MDGs; on the other hand, we have a unique opportunity for crafting the new development agenda for the Post-2015, which in fact should involve the unfinished business of the MDGs and set new priorities and goals in the interest of the whole humanity; and more importantly, these would be seen more crucial, in the context of the ongoing financial and economic crises that plagued the world economy for more than 5 years.

My delegation believes that in order to have a safe passage through this fragile transitional period, we are burdened with very important tasks, negligence of which would plunge us even deeper into more critical situation than what we are caught in today.

Firstly, addressing the global macroeconomic situation, Mr. Chairman, should be the international community’s highest priority, due to the fact that maintaining a sound economic
and financial system is vital for any development to be sustainable at any national, regional and international levels. That is also important in a sense that getting some people out of the poverty line should not be compromised by driving almost the same numbers down under the very infamous line.

For a system to be agile and dynamic, it required to adapt itself to the new circumstances and avoid rigidity; therefore, there is a need for the structural changes and reforms in the international economic and financial system, consistent with the new era.

Needless to say that, as a country located in the midst of the turbulent region of the Middle East, we feel with our flesh and blood how peaceful and secure environment is vital for the sustainable development of a country and the region. Further to that, unilateral economic and financial pressures on the developing countries are also creating another sort of impediment to sustainable development, which is actually entitled to be addressed beyond any political motivations, since its main beneficiaries are the ordinary people of the country and the region.

**Secondly,** in developing the new framework for sustainable development, one should not consider the MDGs as fait-accompli or a relic of the past; MDGs are good basis on which any development agenda should be created, and in the same vein, different circumstances and levels of development of countries should be carefully taken into account.

The final declaration of the Special Event of the General Assembly on the MDGs, adopted a couple of days ago, sets a good ground for a comprehensive approach to be taken in this regard, which could be complemented by the work of the newly-established High-Level Political Forum.

**Thirdly, Mr. Chairman,** developing a framework for sustainable development should be accompanied by a proper roadmap for their implementation, and it is in this regard that, means of implementation play a very critical role in achieving the designated goals.

In addition to focusing on a sound international economic and financial system, as an enabling environment and a means of implementation, my delegation believes that capacity building including through sharing of knowledge, science, technology and experience should be placed high on the agenda.

In this regard, we are keenly anticipating the outcome of the work of the different processes created after the Rio+20 Summit, including the Open-Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals, the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Financing for Sustainable Development, as well as the process to develop options for a technology facilitation mechanism.

**Finally, Mr. Chairman,** my delegation believes that in the implementation of the development agenda, the responsibilities of the developed countries should not be appeased by the strengthening of the cooperation of countries in the south, nor that of the UN Development System be conciliated. This is another reason for the importance of providing policy guidance for the operational activities of the UN and the adoption of the GA resolution 67/226 on the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR).

I thank you Mr. Chairman.