

# **“Iranian Nuclear Case and World Free Nuclear Weapons”**

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# Iranian Nuclear Case

- There are many elements in Iranian nuclear case to be touched and discussed but a few of them are raised here as food for thoughts

# Why Iran insisting on its Nuclear Program?

- Iran believes its nuclear technology is for peaceful purposes;
- So, as a member of the NPT, Iran is full entitled to develop and acquire such a technology in a peaceful direction

# Iran's intention is peaceful?

- Nobody can speculate on the intention of others.
- International relations are based on actual relations and not on mere perceptions and how one side reads (or would like to read) the intentions of the other side.
- Reaction should be related to and corresponding to action and not subject to speculation of intentions.
- Aside from the official pronouncements of Iran, various reports of the IAEA Director-General clearly indicate that Iran's nuclear activities are still in the direction of peaceful nuclear technology

# Sanction is not a positive measure

- Sanctions are, in principle, harmful and can even prove detrimental to any economy or country, and Iran is not an exception to this general rule.
- Sanctioning Iran is the wrong process, and it does not lead to negotiation or cooperation between Iran and the Security Council

# Iran's Behavior towards Sanctions

- Iran has its own particularities:
- First, Iran has been under different sanctions during the past 30 years, and has developed the capacity and the experience to adjust itself to sanctions.
- This means that the people and the government are used to such sanctions and have learned over time how to live with them.
- Second aspect, the Iranian economy, for better or for worse, is not fully integrated in the global economy;
- Therefore, it can be said that the sanctions, both unilateral and multilateral, have not shaken the Iranian economy, and further similar cannot be expected to have drastic impact – at least in the short-term.

# Why does the US stick to sanctions?

- It is quite clear that the US intention is totally political in light of the 30-year-old hostility against Iran,
- It is a strong belief that the Security Council, by punishment of Iran, thinks about killing the incentives of other countries not to follow the nuclear direction of Iran
- So going for sanctions, seems to be the only available and practical policy before the US and her allies

# **Iran as Pioneer in Peaceful Nuclear Activities among Developings**

- **Iran has spent a part of its national interests to open its way to nuclear activities for electricity and other peaceful purposes**
- **In this respect, she learned that she should rely on her own capacities and capabilities; that is, her internal resources.**
- **Such a reliance on domestic and national resources has been the secret to Iran's achievements in various fields, including in the fields of science and technology**

# The Lesson for Developing Countries

- Developing countries have carefully monitored this trend and have learnt that accessing to the peaceful nuclear technology is their legitimate right by the NPT which had been ignored and supposed as TABU in the past
- Nowadays developing countries raise this non-discriminatory and legitimate right here and there to access the peaceful nuclear technology
- So any further sanction of Iran can not kill the incentives of developing countries any more

# Russia & Iran

- Russia was politically more or less beside Iran since the break out the crisis till the new Resolution
- There was a speculation among Iranian people that Russia was not faithful and would not finish Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant
- This new policy or diversion enhances that speculation and will have deeply impact on the close relation between two countries and developing countries as well

# Brazil, Turkey & Iranian Agreement

- These 3 developing countries agreed on the swap of the nuclear fuel in order to exit out of the stalemate but the initiative was kicked back by 5+1 group
- Tehran Research Reactor needs 6 to 10 Kg 19.75% enriched uranium per year
- Iran has already produced 11 Kg within 3 months, it means Iran has already customized its need
- This gave another lesson to Iran as well as developings that they are entrapped by 5+1

# Nuclear Free World

- **President Obama's Intentions:**
- **“America's commitment to seek the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons”**  
**Prague, 5 April 2009**
- **“Today is an important milestone for nuclear security and non-proliferation ...”**  
**Prague, 5 April 2010**

# Iran & Nuclear Free World

- **As a matter of principle, Iran welcomes this initiative, provided that there is a genuine will and a non-discriminatory attitude and plan behind that.**
- **This is exactly what Iran believes and wants. Iran's Supreme Leader issued an official position and reiterated his religious position that the use of nuclear weapons is prohibited. In other words, this statement is the other side of the coin of World Free of Nuclear Weapons.**

# Obama's initiative is Genuine?

- There are many doubters as well, who believe he paid a lip-service to world public opinion.
- Even if President Obama were willing - personally - to fulfill his personal aspirations and promises, there exists serious doubts about his ability to do so at the level of the US government.
- How can he deal with the glaring contradictions in the US foreign policy, including, in particular, the US policy with respect to the ME?

# Disarmament or Non-Proliferation?

- Disarmament and non-proliferation are mutually reinforcing processes, what does not exist can not proliferate
- Un-satisfactory progress of the nuclear weapon states to implement the NPT and achieve complete nuclear disarmament have totally disappointed non-nuclear states and made them lose confidence

# Eradication of World Nuclear Weapons?

- There should be a transparent time table for the reduction of nuclear arsenals of the big boys
- There should be an independent verification mechanism to show the actual nuclear power and not just the number of warheads reduced in each stage (quality and not quantity alone)
- All nuclear bases should be opened to IAEA inspection – even if gradually
- The whole process should be non-discriminatory and free from political motives

# Practical Steps for Non- P5

- Realization of Nuclear Weapons Free Zones (NWFZ) in different parts of world to reinforce the NPT and contribute to International Security
- Priority areas : Middle East, Korean Peninsula, Indian Sub-Continent

# What about the Middle East?

- Israel is the only non-member of NPT possessing nuclear weapons in the Middle East
- Israel's possession of a nuclear arsenal, and her posture and policy towards others in the region emanating from and relying on this capability, has created and enhanced fundamental mistrust among them

# Middle East as a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone

- Iran pioneered in presenting this initiative in the form of a resolution to the United Nations General Assembly in 1974
- The 1995 indefinite extension Conference on NPT adopted a resolution on the Middle East calling for the implementation of a NWFZ in the region

# Middle East as a Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone

- Annual UN General Assembly resolutions on the establishment of a Weapons of Mass Destruction Free Zone (WMDFZ) in the Middle East (pursuant to the Iranian initiative) have for years been adopted by unanimity
- In 1990, the UN Security Council Resolution 687 called for the establishment of the ME as a zone free from all weapons of mass destruction

# The US Policy in Support of Israel

- The traditional bipartisan policy in the US - currently the only remaining superpower - has been to ensure a strategic edge for Israel, that is, to ensure Israel's military superiority in the Middle East

# The Balance of Power in the ME?

- The balance of conventional power, as demonstrated in the previous Arab-Israeli wars, is still in Israel's favor
- Given this, the argument that Israeli nuclear arsenal is her final deterrent against an Arab and/or Iranian attack is simply not plausible

# What the US could do

- The West, particularly the US, do not appear to have demonstrated any meaningful intention or concrete plan thus far towards exerting effective pressure on Israel:
  - • 1) To give up its nuclear arsenals
  - • 2) To join the NPT
  - • 3) To place its nuclear facilities under the full safeguards of the IAEA

# How should we expect Israel to give up its nuclear arsenals?

- Possession of nuclear arsenals appear to have given a false sense of arrogance to Israel in rejecting all peace plans, including those proposed by its main supporter - US
- Israel continues to defy the will of the international community, as manifested in various General Assembly and Security Council resolutions

# The New Approach: Far-fetched or Promising?

- Although the establishment of a WMDFZ or NWFZ in the Middle East seems far-fetched under the current circumstances, but the prospects look promising following President Obama's pronouncements – provided that he is not naïve
- Obama's new approach to arms control and disarmament might influence the dynamics of national and international debates on these issues

# The Role of the US and Disarmament in the Middle East?

- The US can support the realization of a WMDFZ in the Middle East and can undertake confidence-building measure through towards long-term, sustainable peace in the region
- This will require the US to devise and implement conducive policies and measures, among others, to encourage Israel to take strategically meaningful steps towards nuclear disarmament

# Advantages of Establishment of WMDFZ in the ME

- Establishment of a WMDFZ in the Middle East can potentially facilitate the development of a regional security arrangement and assist the quest for a just peace in the Arab-Israeli conflict
- Within such a framework, every country in the region should have the option of pursuing the development of peaceful uses of nuclear technology along with the requisite assurances not to divert it to military purposes