

**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT**

**STATEMENT BY:
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**AT:
THE THIRD MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT,
CAVTAT, CROATIA 1-4 JUNE 2004**

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful

Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran I would like to express my great pleasure for being given the opportunity to participate in this August gathering along with European members of the EIA convention in this beautiful city of Cavtat, Croatia.

I would also like to express my appreciation to the esteemed government of Croatia, EIA convention officials, the Secretariat, and sincerely hope, success for this meeting.

The Participation of Iranian representative in the third meeting of the convention, I believe signifies the particular attention of the Convention authorities for a wider scope of the development and advancement toward the convention goals and we view it as a gesture of goodwill.

We believe that Environmental Impact Assessment in general plays an important role in adopting the path toward sustainable development and its eventual consequences. Environmental Impact Assessment can pave the

way for ecological balance, optimize consumption of natural resources and evaluate economic and social parameters for the benefit of national and international communities. Without any doubt, paying attention to capacity building and effective execution and development of the EIA convention is a prelude in achieving convention goals and raising environment quality.

We all believe that the EIA convention achievements should be sought in collaborative and integrated attempts of all nations.

Let me seize the opportunity and emphasize that Iran, as a member of the UN and non-member of EIA convention, follows the convention policies and EU SEA protocol goals with full commitment and adopts proper measures in the framework of the Fiftieth Article of our Constitution. The article prohibits the economic or other actions that result in pollution or irreparable damages to the environment.

The adoption of EIA legislation, approval of EIA guidelines, empowering of the EIA office in Department of the Environment, holding training courses, strengthening the role of the private sector, execution of over 220 assessment reports, attracting public participation for EIA and auditing assessment results by committed inspectors are some of the activities at the national level. Attempts are made to harmonize Iran EIA system with international norms, and acceptance of the EIA convention and SEA protocol provisions in the Transboundary context are constantly considered in present and future plans.

Again I take the opportunity and express my appreciation for the generous hospitality offered to us. This gives us an opportunity to put forward the request for honorary membership of Iran in the EIA convention. We consider establishing more communications and cooperation as effective steps forward in the line of global sustainable development.

Thank you