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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by The Society for Recovery Support, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[7 February 2022]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only. The views expressed in the present document do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations or its officials.



The impact of sanctions on the living conditions of refugees and asylum seekers living in the Islamic Republic of Iran

Immigration and asylum are often imposed on people unintentionally, and people immigrate to other countries to have a safe place to live. Due to its geographical, cultural and religious similarities, the Islamic republic of Iran is one of the main destinations for Afghan refugees and migrants. Afghan refugees immigrate to the Islamic Republic of Iran in the hope of achieving security and a peaceful life. Iranian have been a great host for more than 40 years and have taken care of their guests in difficult conditions. Economic sanctions have made the host's conditions more difficult, and as the host's table shrinks, so does the guest's share. The economic situation resulting from the escalation of sanctions in the Islamic Republic of Iran has made the living conditions of the Iranian and Afghan refugees more difficult. The devaluation of the IRR and rising inflation had made conditions difficult for refugees living in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Corona pandemic exacerbated the situation several times and even forced them to emigrate to other countries as it was not possible for them to earn money and pay the high cost of living. The establishment of the Taliban government was the next reason for the influx of new immigrants to the Islamic Republic of Iran about 8 months ago. Upon entering the Islamic Republic of Iran, these people made the fragile living conditions of the previous refugee more fragile because they made the situation much more difficult by creating demand in various economic sectors. For example, as demand for shelter has increased, property rents in many refugee-living-areas have risen by as much as 100 percent, and demand for new, lower-wage labor has made refugee job security more difficult. Also, it has led into reduce in wages and incomes and increase in the cost of living. SRS has been providing various services to Afghan refugees living in the Islamic Republic of Iran since 2012, in partnership with international agencies and organizations, including education, livelihoods, shelter, treatment and support. Field observations show that refugees, like the Iranian people, are in poor economic conditions and those who are able have migrated to other countries, including Europe or are planning to migrate. The world needs to know that governments suffer the least from sanctions because it is the people who bear the brunt of life. The continuation of oppressive sanctions makes the situation more difficult for refugees. As an NGO serving refugees in the Islamic Republic of Iran, we call on agencies and organizations active in the field of refugees and human rights to play their role by taking prompt and effective action to end oppressive sanctions. (The sons of Adam are limbs of a frame, for in creation, from one soul they came. If hard times cause one member to feel pain, at ease and rest, the others can't remain.)
