Position paper

COUNTRY-IRAN,COMMITTEE- ECOSOC

TOPIC- **‘Impact of Corona virus on international trade and strategies made for post corona situation’**

**The outbreak of the Corona virus dealt a harsh blow to the Iranian economy, which had already fallen to a record low point in the wake of economic sanctions imposed by the United States and the decline of oil prices. The economic impact of the pandemic is particularly severe because it harms sectors that were less affected by the sanctions. This topic is important because the COVID-19 crisis reached Iran at one of the most difficult periods in its history.**

**The Health Ministry has proposed sending 300,000 militia members door-to-door on a desperate mission to sanitize homes. The top prosecutor has warned that anyone hoarding face masks and other public health equipment**[**risks the death penalty**](https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2020/03/01/619919/Iran-prosecutor-general-death-penalty-hoarding-coronavirus)**.**

**The US has denied that its sanctions are restricting Iran's ability to import medical supplies, pointing to an exemption for humanitarian goods.**

**But Iran says companies find it difficult to process payments with banks unwilling to risk breaking US rules and risk sanctions themselves.**

**The government says it's approaching the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for emergency assistance amounting to $5bn.**

**The World Health Organization (WHO) has sent Iran diagnostic kits, protective equipment and medicine**[**in a number of shipments since the first Covid-19 case was reported there in February.**](http://www.emro.who.int/irn/iran-news/who-delivers-new-shipment-of-medical-supplies-for-covid-19-response-in-islamic-republic-of-irann.html)

**A WHO team which visited Iran in early March said although progress had been made in expanding testing and in other areas, more work needed to be done.**

**Iran's President Hasan Rohani has said that restrictions to stem the coronavirus pandemic will be reimposed in the country if citizens continue to disobey public-health regulations.**

**After gradually relaxing its lockdown since mid-April, Iran in recent weeks has seen a sharp rise of new daily infections.**

**Rohani said in a televised speech on June 13 that compliance with health regulations had been as high as 80 percent in mid-May. But he said compliance was now down to only about 20 percent.**

**Rohani blamed Iran's latest surge of COVID-19 on travelers that he said had been spreading the coronavirus to previously low-risk provinces.**

**With 2,410 new cases on June 13, the total number of confirmed cases in Iran is now about 185,000.Iran's Health Ministry said on June 13 that 71 people had died from the virus during the previous 24 hours.**

**The total number of deaths in Iran from COVID-19 on June 13 was 8,730, the ministry said.**

**Rohani expressed concern about mass prayers at the recently reopened Imam Reza shrine, Iran's largest Shi'ite Muslim religious complex in the northeast of the country.**

**"If there is no cooperation, we will have to reimpose the restrictions," Rohani said, adding that adherence to the health restrictions was needed "to keep businesses open."**

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