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热烈庆祝中伊建交40周年

Warm Congratulations on the 40th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations Between China and Iran

## Iranian Economy at A Glance

The basis of economy in Iran is oil and gas industries, which are controlled by the government. Today nearly 70-80 percent of national revenues are secured by oil and gas exploration. So Iran is one of the main secure and stable sources of energy in the world. Of course some part of this industry, especially in downstream, are privatized by the government in recent years.

The private sector is generally active in the fields like auto manufacturing, textile, petrochemical, metallurgy, food industries and so on. After the period of imposed war by Saddam's regime, the economic and social development plans were designed and from 1989 the reconstruction of the country started. So gradually the government starts to make national industries more competitive in the world markets through privatizing the state running companies, arranging and adjusting the subsidy system, creating an effective tax system and in many cases reducing the import tariff.

Thanks to the increase of national revenues by increasing the world price of petroleum, the new infrastructure projects in different fields such as dams, hydropower, railways (high speed and normal railways) metro, power plant and so on come to stage and the government by rescheduling its development plan try to accelerate the implementation of those projects.

Iran owns the second largest reserves of gas and the third largest reserves of crude oil in the world. The crude oil production is about four million barrels per day and the daily natural gas production is more than 120 billion m<sup>3</sup>. Today about half of the domestically consumed energy is supplied by natural gas.

Besides oil and gas Iran is a rich country in the field of mines and metals. The main mineral products which are exported on a ground level are iron ore, construction and decorative stones, cooper ore, coal, zinc, lead, etc. It is estimated that Iran owns 4% of the world cooper reserves. The world rank of Iran in producing of some mines and minerals are 4th in Zinc, Lead and Cobalt, 6th in Alomenit and 8th in Barit and Magnesia.

In the field of industry the main one is oil, gas and petrochemical. The annual petrochemical products have been planed to soar to 27 million tons in 2015. Metal industries started to grow up since 1990s, causing escalating of export revenues.

Automakers developed their production levels by signing various contracts with Asian and European manufactures.

Weather condition diversity and abundance of good earth in Iran are main reasons for producing and exporting a wide variety of agricultural products. According to the studies carried out by FAO in 2005, Iran was ranked as the fourth for diversity of its agricultural products. One third of revenues in agricultural sector secured by



animal husbandry and poultry products. The foreign currencies revenues by exporting fruits and vegetables are considerable. The most important agricultural products of Iran and the share of production of each one in the world market are saffron (90%), pistachio (52.5%), stoned fruits (44%), mulberry (35.9%), dates (13.9%) and Despite high growth rate of population of the country, one of the most important achievements in agricultural sector is self sufficiency in wheat production. In 2007, Iran can meet the wheat needs of the country through the domestic production.

From historical point of view, Iranian handicrafts have always been well-known on a global level, the most significant of which is hand woven Persian carpet.

Another field that Iranian government attaches great attention to is tourism. It is expected that the number of foreign tourist who visit Iran will increase in the near future.

At the end let us review the most important achievements of Iran's macro-economy during the tenure of President Dr. Ahmadinejad. They are as follows:

- The gradual adjustment of gasoline price in domestic market and makes it more closer to the international level
- Reduction of inflation rate falls from two digit rate to less that 9 percent
- The reduction of government budget dependency to foreign currencies returns
- The adjustment of subsidy system of the country to reach to one of the main objectives of the Islamic economy which is social justice
- The unemployment level is reduced to less that 9 percent

