

Statement delivered by Iran – Informal Interactive Dialogue on R2P, 6 September 2016 [UNOFFICIAL
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Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

I would like to appreciate the Secretary General's report on the Responsibility to Protect. I extend my appreciation to the President of the General Assembly for organizing this interactive dialogue. The sad experiences of the last decades in the Middle East and North Africa, which have highly contributed to the regeneration and extension of terrorism and extremism in affected countries, and the world as a whole, exposed the consequences of irresponsible protection.

We note the report of the Secretary General and its recommendations. We agree that the concentration of the international community should focus on the prevention of mass atrocities, and we support the strengthening of UN early warning system.

We also maintain that the use of military means to protect populations from atrocity crimes shall be governed by Security Council decisions. However, authorization of Security Council shall not be understood as *carte blanche*. The Security Council should monitor the operations on the ground. It is also the responsibility of the international community to assist the construction process in post-intervention era.

Mr. Moderator, it remains a matter of absolute concern that the use of R2P may bring more harm than good. Meanwhile, in the absence of genuine and unbiased functioning structure, there is persistent tendency to apply double standards and selective approaches, which grant impunity to favorable ones, and overlooks atrocities committed by them, no matter how serious and how horrific they are. Selectivity, double standards and politicization of the concept make it prone to manipulation and abuse, undermine the integrity of this concept, and gives the impression that the main objective behind R2P is political agenda or interests rather than saving the lives of people. The objective of R2P shall not be regime change, but protection of population. This is the major obstacle which preclude R2P to become effective. Member states should address this deficiency in a serious and objective manner.

Thank you Mr. Moderator.