



Item 3: ID with IE on Older Persons

Madam President,

In all the countries that are targeted by unilateral sanctions, including Iran, Cuba, Syria and Venezuela, the comprehensive Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCM)s that were referred to as “*economic warfare*” or “*de-facto blockades*” by the UN Special Rapporteur on UCMs¹ multiple times, intentionally target civilian lives. Obviously, the most vulnerable, including the older persons suffer the most serious threats to their life and health.

UCMs prevent financial banking transactions and seriously limit the people’s access essential items including medicine, medical equipment and food. In addition, the decline of targeted economies² limits the elderly’s access to essential services even further.

Madam President,

Being alarmed by the deadly effect of illegal UCMs on the older persons who live in targeted countries especially under the outbreak of Covid-19, ODVV urges the Independent Expert on Older Persons to:

- Report the malicious effect of UCMs on older persons’ right to life and right to health to the HRC.
- Join the SR on UCMs, in order to be the voice of millions of older people whose lives is endangered by illegal unilateral sanctions.
- Offer the HRC with recommendations on how to mitigate and minimize the deadly effect of sanctions on Older persons who live in sanctioned countries.

¹. A/74/165, A/HRC/39/54, A/HRC/42/46

². United States sanctions are repeatedly cited as the main reason for the deteriorating economic situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran ... A/HRC/45/7