

Mission Permanente de la République Islamique d'Iran Auprès des Nations Unies et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Ref. 2050/1033871

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and with reference to the latter's Communication No. Al IRN 9/2021 dated 17 March 2021 concerning fuel couriers in the Province of Sistan and Baluchestan, has the honor to transmit, herewith, the comment of the High Council for Human Rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran in that regard.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 10 January 2022

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In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

Comment

By

The High Council for Human Rights

Of The Islamic Republic of Iran

Concerning fuel couriers in Sistan and Baluchestan Province

With regard to the letter of Special Procedures dated March 17, 2021 concerning the events related to fuel couriers in Sistan and Baluchestan Province it is necessary to pay attention to the following points in order to clarify the allegations made in the said correspondence.

- 1- The main cause of the accident was the closure of the legal border on the side of Pakistan, which caused Iranian cars to wander at both sides of the border. No institution or body from the Islamic Republic of Iran had blocked the border.
- 2- With the closure of the border on the side of Pakistan, around 5,000 vehicles carrying smuggled fuel from the Islamic Republic of Iran to Pakistan in addition to unloaded vehicles from Pakistan tried to enter Iran illegally from Shamsar checkpoint. Despite the serious warnings from the commanders and officials of the checkpoint, individuals present at the place broke the entrance door of the border and tried to run over the guards at the scene with a pickup truck. Some of them even tried to disarm the officers and attacking the checkpoint by throwing stones towards the guards. Border guards dispersed crowds while observing the guidelines and regulation on the use of weapons.
- 3- In total, 3 people were killed and 6 people injured during this incident. In a judicial official interview with two of the injured, namely 1.

 an Afghan national 2.

 both stated that they were injured inside Pakistan. One person died and his

- body was handed over to the Iranian border guards. Meanwhile, during these incidents, one member of the border guards was martyred and two others were injured. Therefore, the figures announced by the Rapporteurs (10 people or 23 people killed) are not true at all.
- 4- After handing over the bodies to the families of the deceased, the cyberspace sensitively paid attention to the issue, and with the publication of fake images by terrorist groups on 2/8/2020, a number of people in the Saravan region, under their provocations, gathered in front of the governor's office. By entering the governor's office building, they destroyed and set on fire the governor's meeting room as well as two police vehicles. With the intervention of the military forces and without any shooting resulted in death or injuries, despite the false claims by the terrorist groups that a number of people were killed, only twenty rioters have been arrested on charges of killing and injuring people.
- 5- By the order of the military prosecutor of the province, a judicial dossier has been formed regarding any possible fault or negligence on the part of the military or security officers, and the matter is under investigation.
- 6- Regarding the compensation for the injured persons, a dossier has been opened at the relevant judicial authority. An investigation has started based on the parents' claim that their children were killed in the shooting, as well as those who claim for injuries in the shooting. After receiving the complaints, and the probate certificate as well as the forensic certificate of the dead and the injured, the necessary measures will be taken. The parents of the deceased (

has been yet submitted to the judiciary. For your information, none of the injured have filed a complaint so far.