

## Message from Dr. Rohani to E3/EU Ministers July 18, 2005

- I am conveying this message to you and your leadership through your ambassadors in Tehran in order to help bring this issue to a satisfactory solution.
- You are fully aware that in the course of the last two years, I have not hesitated to use all my ability in order to keep the negotiations going and create a climate to enable both sides to resolve this matter.
- I did so because I believe that the resolution of this sensitive issue leads immediately to a higher state of relationship, whereby our differences with the West can be transformed to areas of collaboration.
  - The events of the last two years, particularly in our region, have only further strengthened his conviction.
  - For twenty-five years, I have focused on security issues surrounding Iran and the region. Never have I seen such potential for commonality of purpose and concern about mutual sources of threat in significant areas.
  - Today, in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Lebanon, I find strong and inescapable reasons and elements that bind us in shaping and establishing durable stability.
  - Like you, we wish and need to see established governments in Afghanistan and Iraq to succeed and to prevail over the threats that aim to undermine them. We need as well to see the reformed political structure in Lebanon to move forward with participation of all segments of the polity.
  - We also have common concern over the violent and blind misinterpretation of Islam manifested in groups like Al-Qaida and other terrorist groups like MEK who have chosen and practice violence as a mean to achieve misguided objectives.
- I believe you share the view that the negotiations, particularly those conducted since the Paris Agreement, have brought us very close to an agreement that both sides may be able to accept.
- While we were progressing substantially on the framework proposed by Iran, our suggestion to agree on starting a negotiated implementation of the first phase of our proposal was mistakenly perceived as an ultimatum.
- I agreed to come to Geneva because I was confident that we had made significant progress towards a resolution and agreed to extend the period of full suspension for another two months to correct any wrong perception about an ultimatum and to ensure that no opportunity was spared for an agreed settlement.
- Statements at that meeting that you intended to present a proposal which, aside from other issues, intended to make a bridge between our positions on the nuclear issues, and previous discussions with President Chirac and Chancellor Schroder were encouraging indications that a mutually acceptable agreement could well be within reach.
- We have received information from public and diplomatic channels that following our presidential elections, you have been contemplating to withhold a proposal

which could potentially lead to an agreement on the core issue of our enrichment program.

- During the course of the last three weeks, we have held extensive discussions at the leadership level with participation of both the President and the President-elect, the heads of all branches of Government, the Chairman of the Expediency Council, as well as all other high level officials and advisors whose responsibilities are relevant to this issue.
- We all agree on the following basic points:
  - Iran's policy on the nuclear issue will remain unchanged.
  - Iran remains resolute on making every effort to come to an agreement with Europe, which incorporates the exercise of all its rights under the treaty with guarantees for the exclusive peaceful nature of its activities.
  - There is no pretext for any further delay in the implementation of the first phase of our proposal, which is free from any past alleged failures, is nearly proliferation free. With additional proposed arrangements it should leave no excuse for anyone.
  - Any agreement arrived at on this important issue will be the firm commitment of the State above and beyond changes in administrations.
  - Such an agreement should serve as the basis for long term positive state of cooperation on all issues of interest and concern between Iran and the EU/E3.
- After such a long period of negotiations and so much that we have done to restore confidence and the flexibility that we have shown, there is no longer any reason for you to withhold -- presumably due to unrelated domestic political developments in Iran -- a proposal that can be workable for both sides and instead present something which will leave us with no alternative but to reject.
- As I assume you are moving to finalize your proposal, I invite you to review the matter carefully once again in light of what I sincerely told you in Geneva.
- Issues on security, technology and economic cooperation and related firm guarantees and commitments can be discussed and agreed at the level of senior officials.
- **On the core issue of nuclear activity, my understanding of the Geneva discussions is that Europe might now be prepared to offer its own nuclear power reactor. Bearing this in mind, I am hoping that we can work together during the remaining time before the end of July to form a solution along the following lines:**
  - **Commencement of the work of Isfahan plant at low capacity and under full scope monitoring, while arrangements for import of the feed material and export of the product are worked out with you and other potential partners.**
  - **It is my understanding that at this stage there is still difficulty on an initial limited operation at Natanz, particularly on the numbers and other specifics. An agreement on this is essential for us, although we are open to further negotiate on a mutually acceptable arrangement or allow the Agency to develop an optimized arrangement on numbers, monitoring mechanism and other specifics for an initial**

**limited operation at Natanz, which would address our needs and allay your concerns.**

- **Negotiations for full scale operation of Natanz would continue on the premise that it would be synchronized with the fuel requirements of your light water reactor or those offered by Russia.**