

**Statement of H.E. Mr. Ahmad Jalali, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of
the Islamic Republic of Iran to UNESCO**

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Mr. Chairman,

My time is very limited, therefore I will devote it to only one topic.

We all know that first it was UNECO, but the founders realised they needed to include science and make it UNESCO.

The pioneers of development are scientists, researchers, and intellectuals. Native scientists are needed to find native solutions for developing countries.

Alas, many countries are suffering brain drain; even worse, the kidnapping and most catastrophically the murder of scientists. You are all aware that terrorists assassinated the fifth Iranian top scientist six days ago. For many years, hundreds of scientists from developing countries have been killed and we are doing nothing.

Dear colleagues,

If there is only one world organization to address this serious issue, it is UNESCO, in the same way that it has assumed responsibility for the security of journalists and found a solution.

Today, not as an Iranian, nor as an academic, but as an individual who has spent twenty years of his life in this House, I urge UNESCO not to remain silent but to condemn it. It hurts the human conscience. Let us find a solution together. Terrorism must be condemned no matter whom it targets, scientists, teachers, journalists or anyone else. Fortunately ethics in science is becoming a major topic for UNESCO; in the last General Conference UNESCO awarded an American scientist the Avicenna Prize for Ethics in Science, which was established by Iran. This is the universality of UNESCO.

Thank you.

