Distinguished guests,

Dear colleagues,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Initially, I would like to express my gratitude to the organisers of this event, which is one of a kind, and a great source of inspiration for our young scientists. I would also like to thank our outstanding international participants, the Nobel and Abel laureates and all other distinguished guests who accepted our call for participation and honoured us with their presence, adding to the value of the Event. I should wish to thank Dr Jafariyan, honourable Chancellor of the Tehran University of Medical Sciences,The Iranian Ministry of Health and Medical Education,

My colleagues at the Iranian National Commission for UNESCO,

and last but not least my special thanks goes to Dr Nima Rezaei, top 1% scientist and Vice Dean for International Affairs at Tehran University of Medical Sciences

A scientist myself, I am well aware of the importance of the universalisation of scientific education and research as well as the need for the popularisation of scientific education and research, which is a top priority of UNESCO as a means for promoting peace and Sustainable Development.

UNESCO is by far the sole UN agency that has a clear mandate in sciences.

UNESCO, through its international and intergovernmental science programmes, is the lead UN agency in promoting sciences and interdisciplinary international scientific cooperation among nations for peaceful purposes. A clear evidence of this claim is the UNESCO science report, which for two decades now the series has been mapping science, technology and innovation (STI) around the world on a regular basis.

Without further ado, I believe this 1st USERN Congress brings together top scientists from around the globe to discuss issues and implement an agenda that are as outstanding and inspiring as the event itself.

This event, I believe, can help respond to or serve as a platform to respond to such questions as whether it is possible to have everyone in the world benefit from the results of scientific achievements.

We can together analyse whether the scientific activities carried out today can bring prosperity for mankind (knowing that achieving human prosperity is one of the objectives of the united nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development), and many more questions that are yet to be answered in our scientific world.

We must strive for harnessing the power of sciences for the benefit of not only the current human community, but also for our future generations, as a means for achieving peace and Sustainable Development. Sciences and international scientific cooperation can thus be seen as a means for promoting effective dialogue among nations.

With this, I wish you all fruitful discussions and once again express my gratitude to the organisers as well as the participants for helping to popularise and promote sciences at such an excellent level.

Thank you all for your attention