

The President of the Security Council presents his compliments to the members of the Council and has the honour to transmit herewith, for their information, a copy of a **letter dated 25 September 2023 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations** addressed to the President of the Security Council.

This letter will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/2023/697.

25 September 2023



Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

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In the name of God, the most Compassionate, the most Merciful

No. 1761568

25 September 2023

Excellency,

Upon instructions from my Government, I would like to draw the attention of the Security Council to the persistent and blatant violations of international law by the Israeli regime against the Islamic Republic of Iran. The most recent being the alarming and serious threat of using nuclear weapons against Iran by the Prime Minister of the Israeli regime. During his address on 22 September 2023, to the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister of the Israeli regime, made explicit threats to use nuclear weapons against a sovereign member state of the United Nations. He asserted: "Above all -- above all -- Iran must face a credible nuclear threat. As long as I'm prime minister of Israel, I will do everything in my power to prevent Iran from getting nuclear weapons." (GA/12536)¹

Given that nuclear weapons pose an existential threat to humanity and our planet, the gravity of such a threat is immeasurable and sends shockwaves throughout the international community when delivered from the prestigious podium of the United Nations General Assembly, which serves as the United Nations' primary representative body. The use or even the mere threat of use of nuclear weapons, regardless of the circumstances, by anyone, at any time, and anywhere is an egregious violation of not only international law but also the very essence of the United Nations Charter, in particular, Article 2(4) of the Charter. Moreover, when such a bellicose threat emanates from an illegitimate regime that has been widely condemned for its aggressions, apartheid policies, and sponsoring terrorism, and is known to possess an arsenal of weapons of mass destruction alongside advanced conventional weaponry, it heightens the serious threat to international peace and security and the international community must not remain indifferent or silent.

The Israeli regime shamelessly defies repeated international calls to join legally binding instruments that prohibit weapons of mass destruction and obstructs the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, a proposal that Iran has championed since 1974. Therefore, this alarming situation demands a robust response from the international community at large, with the United Nations Security Council bearing a particular responsibility to resoundingly and unequivocally denounce the Israeli regime's reckless and dangerous statements. The preservation

¹ <https://media.un.org/en/asset/k11/k110h5wryj>



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of international order and the safeguarding of our collective humanity necessitate an unwavering commitment and resolute action in response to such threats.

While vehemently and unequivocally condemning the Israeli regime's perilous threat to use nuclear weapons against Iran as a flagrant violation of established peremptory norms of international law, the Islamic Republic of Iran firmly reaffirms its legitimate and inherent rights, in full accordance with international law and the United Nations Charter, to respond resolutely to any threats and unlawful acts originating from the Israeli regime. Iran also declares that it will not hesitate to exercise these rights to defend its security, national interests, and people.

I would be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Amir Saeid Irvani
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

H.E. Mr. Ferit Hoxha
President of the Security Council
United Nations, New York

CC:
H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres
Secretary-General
United Nations, New York

H.E. Mr. Dennis Francis
President of the General Assembly
United Nations, New York