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STATEMENT MADE BY THE GOVERNOR FROM IRAQ  
IN THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS ON 20 FEBRUARY 1987

The attached text is being circulated at the request  
of the Governor from Iraq.

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STATEMENT MADE BY THE GOVERNOR FROM IRAQ

"The Iraqi Government has clearly stated its position on the protection of nuclear facilities from armed attacks on numerous previous occasions. This position is reflected in many United Nations and Agency documents, among them document GOV/INF/472 circulated to all Member States at the request of the Resident Representative of Iraq to the Agency on 19 March 1985 in reply to an Iranian accusation regarding an alleged Iraqi military attack on the so-called 'Bushehr nuclear power plant'. As stated in document GOV/INF/472:

1. Iraq has always asserted its adherence to its commitment not to attack peaceful nuclear facilities, particularly those subject to the Agency's safeguards. It has also urged all States to reach an agreement to that effect.
2. Iraq has repeatedly rejected and refuted such Iranian allegations. It has not attacked the Bushehr nuclear site in spite of the fact that it is located in the region of the port of Bushehr, which falls within the zone of military operations as defined by Iraq. All ships were warned in advance of the hazards of entry to it.
3. The Bushehr. site does not contain any nuclear material and it is not as yet subject to safeguards; as the Director General of the Agency stated before the Board of Governors on 19 February 1985. Therefore, there is no direct responsibility for the Agency in this matter.
4. The right solution for this problem, and for all other problems emanating from the aggressive war waged by Iran against Iraq, lies in putting an end to this war, so that the two neighbouring countries may live in peace.

"Iraq, out of humanitarian, concern and in the interests of friendly relations with foreign countries, has always maintained a policy of warning foreign companies and nationals of potential hazards resulting from their presence in war zones in Iran. In line with this policy, an Embassy staff member - and not the Ambassador as distortedly alleged by the Iranian letter<sup>1/</sup> - has given such advice, within the framework and on the basis of this concern. In this connection, I am in a position to state that neither the Ambassador nor any of his staff made the statement reported in the Iranian letter. I take this opportunity to repeat that Bushehr port - and not the so-called 'Busher nuclear power plant' - is a war zone declared early during the war because of its vital importance to the Iranian war effort.

"It is common knowledge that work at the Bushehr site has been abandoned since Khomeini came to power, in 1979, thus resulting in contractual problems between KWU and the Iranian authorities, which indirectly involve the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

"It is not surprising that each party to the Bushehr contract is doing everything possible to find legal support for its position. The erroneous statement attributed to the, Iraqi Ambassador to Bonn may well be in line with these attempts.

"The Iranian regime has devoted all its efforts to continuing the war against Iraq and to freeing itself, in -this regard, of all international obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law. The Iranian regime rejects the competence of the Security Council for settling this conflict, as mandated by, the United Nations Charter to do. Moreover, this regime has maintained a policy of selective application of international law, so as to conceal its real intentions of continuing its efforts to invade- Iraq and achieving regional expansion. The Iranian regime makes no contribution to the Agency other than, involving it in unfounded, accusations that do not concern the global mission of the Agency, in an attempt to divert international attention from condemning the Iranian policy of prolonging the war."

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<sup>1/</sup> See document INPCIRC/339.