

Information Circular

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General Distribution

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Communication dated 2 December 2020 received from the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Agency

1. The Secretariat has received a communication dated 2 December 2020 from the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Agency, enclosing a letter of H.E. Ambassador Kazem Gharib Abadi, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to H.E. Rafael Mariano Grossi, Director General of the Agency.
2. The communication and, as requested by the Permanent Mission, the letter are circulated herewith for information.



PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

JAURESASSE 3
1030 VIENNA, AUSTRIA

جمهوری اسلامی ایران

نماینده دائمی نزد دفتر ملل متحد و سازمانهای بین المللی

وین

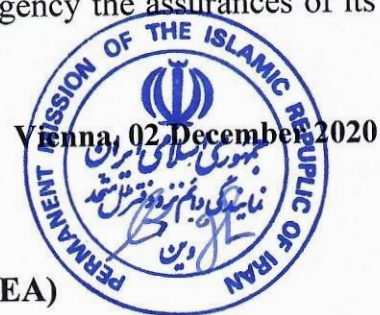
In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

No. 2813

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and has the honor to hereby enclose a letter from H.E. Mr. Kazem Gharib Abadi, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to H.E. Mr. Rafael Mariano Grossi, Director General of the IAEA regarding the cowardly terrorist act and horrific assassination of Dr. Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, a prominent scientist of the Islamic Republic of Iran which took place on 27 November 2020 in Absard city of Tehran Province.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran would like to request the latter to circulate the present letter among Member States and publish it as an INFCIRC document.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest consideration.



Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND
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JAURESASSE 3
1030 VIENNA, AUSTRIA



جمهوری اسلامی ایران
نایب‌رئیس دایم‌النزود قسطنطنیه و سازمانهای بین‌المللی
وین

In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

No.2813

02 December 2020

Excellency,

I am writing to you regarding the cowardly terrorist act and horrific assassination of Dr. Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, a prominent scientist of the Islamic Republic of Iran which took place on 27 November 2020 in Absard city of Tehran Province.

Martyr Fakhrizadeh was as a distinguished physicist and a university professor, who carried out and contributed to various scientific initiatives including in the chemical, biological and nuclear passive defense fields for protective purposes. One of the latest services of Martyr Fakhrizadeh was his outstanding role in the development of the first indigenous COVID-19 Test Kit, which is a great contribution to our national efforts in curbing the COVID-19 pandemic at a time when Iran is under inhumane sanctions of the United States, strictly preventing our access to humanitarian goods including medicines and medical equipment. He was also supervising the development of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Substantive evidence clearly indicates involvement and responsibility of Israeli regime in the terrorist attack taking also into account that this regime's authorities have repeatedly named Dr. Mohsen Fakhrizadeh and planned to assassinate him several times. This is yet another instance of terrorism planned, organized and financed by the most heinous terrorist regime with the aim of endangering international peace and security, threatening territorial integrity, destabilizing the region, destruction of human rights and hindering the socio-economic development of independent nations.

Such callous terrorist act, like any act of international terrorism, constitutes a threat to international peace and security and contravenes the fundamental principles of international law

and principles set forth within the Charter of the United Nations as well as the fundamental human rights.

Assassination of Dr. Mohsen Fakhrizadeh is the persistence of terrorist acts started more than a decade ago by assassinating several Iranian nuclear scientists in 2010, 2011 and 2012 which requires due attention on the part of the international community and relevant international organizations. It is noteworthy that in addition to all crimes it has committed in the past decades, Israelis have not only engaged in terrorist acts against Iranians, but also are behind assassination of several other scientists in various countries.

Considering the dire implications of such horrific act and dangerous provocations on international peace and security and that terrorism as a formidable challenge to the international community requires collective responses, we call upon Member States to uphold their obligations under international law in fighting terrorism and condemn such inhumane act in the strongest terms.

The Islamic Republic of Iran believes that the adoption of a double-standard approach towards countries when it comes to the fight against terrorism will not only be counter-productive, but it will also doom efforts in the global fight against terror to fail and lead eventually to more breeding grounds for terrorism. Today, countries and international organizations who see themselves at the forefront of human rights and combating terrorism, are being put into a decisive historical test. They should be responsive to the nation of Iran, 17000 of whom lost their lives due to terrorism, as to why they are keeping silence over such heinous terrorist activities.

Excellency,

The United Nations through numerous resolutions has unanimously condemned all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whosoever committed. They have also reaffirmed that acts, methods and practices of terrorism as well as financing, planning and inciting terrorist acts are contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations. In this respect, the Islamic Republic of Iran highly expects that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) clearly and unequivocally condemn this terrorist act. It is now an opportune for the Agency to renounce the assassination of the nuclear scientists and sabotage of the peaceful nuclear facilities of a member of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the IAEA. The Agency and its Member States have a dire

responsibility vis-à-vis a Member who receives the highest level of inspections of the Agency and has the most transparent nuclear program through such cooperation, but its scientists are assassinated or under threat of assassination, and its nuclear facilities are sabotaged or under threat of sabotage.

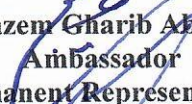
In this context, protection of confidential information by the Agency is of utmost importance. I shall remind that in 2010, immediately after the first assassination of an Iranian nuclear scientist, the Islamic Republic of Iran in a letter to the Agency's then Director General expressed its categorical objection over the release of the names of its scientists and experts in the reports of the Agency which became available to it through safeguards related activities. It is recalled that Article VII, F of the Agency's Statute, Article 5 of Iran's Safeguards Agreement with the Agency (INFCIRC/214) and Article 15 of the Additional Protocol (INFCIRC/214/Add.1), emphasize that commercial and industrial secrets and other confidential information coming to the Agency's knowledge should be protected against disclosure. Accordingly, while reiterating once again our long-standing principled position on the importance of adhering to the principles of confidentiality by the Agency, it is highly expected that the Agency discontinue the practice of unnecessary release of detailed information on Iran's nuclear activities in its reports.

Excellency,

The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns the assassination of Dr. Fakhrizadeh and reserves its rights, including its inherent right of self-defense, to take all necessary measures to respond to the terrorist attack and any further wrongful acts, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

I would be grateful if the present letter be circulated as an official document of the IAEA among the Member States.

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


Kazem Gharib Abadi
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

H. E. Mr. Rafael Mariano Grossi
Director General
International Atomic Energy Agency