

Information Circular

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Communication dated 7 December 2020 from the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Agency

1. The Secretariat has received a communication dated 7 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

JAURESGASSE 3
1030 VIENNA, AUSTRIA

جمهوری اسلامی ایران

نماینده دائمی نزد دفتر ملل متحد و سازمانهای بین المللی

وین

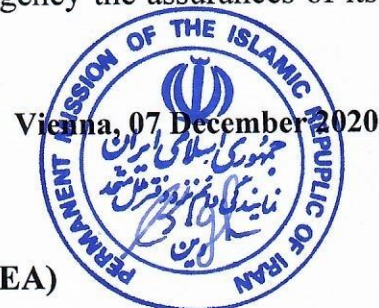
In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

No. 2820

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 non-compliance with the confidentiality principles, the provisions of the Agency's Statute as well as the Staff Regulations and Rules and the Standards of Conduct of the International Civil Service by Mr. Olli Heinonen, the former Deputy Director General and the Head of Safeguards Department of the Agency.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran would like to request the latter to circulate the present letter among the 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)

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جمهوری اسلامی ایران
نایبکی دائم نزد قمرل متحد و سازمانهای بین المللی
وین

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

No. 2820

07 December 2020

Excellency,

Following my previous letter to H.E. Mr. Yukiya Amano, the late Director General of the IAEA, No. 117 /2019 dated 17 July 2019, I would like to draw your attention to the interviews, meetings, press conferences and publications of various articles by Mr. Olli Heinonen, the former Deputy Director General and the Head of Safeguards Department of the Agency, the latest of which was his interview with a news channel named BBC Persian on 28th of November 2020 on the 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, where he based his deceptive allegations on the information previously available to him at the Agency.

I would like to reiterate that the continuous breach of the Agency's professional rules and regulations by the former top safeguards official of the Agency is a serious issue which requires to be urgently addressed. It even gets worse when he tries to abuse its ex-official status and disseminate his false speculations aimed at a smear-campaign against a Member State. In the meantime, his former stature and the seemingly high level of access to safeguards information in the Agency made him a plausible figure to spread false and mis-information.

In the past, the Islamic Republic of Iran has raised its concerns several times – through statements in the Board of Governors and written correspondence - about the misconduct of certain officials, including the fact that the former Deputy Director General of the Agency is abusing his previous position in an utter breach of the confidentiality principles, the provisions of the Agency's Statute as well as the Staff Regulations and Rules and the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service.

Regrettably, against such principles, since he left the Agency, he has been involved in many projects in collaboration with the United States and Israeli regime and

manipulated false and baseless information in his statements and publications in a misleading manner.

Unfortunately, as a result of lack of application of serious legal measures with respect to such violations by the previous mandate-holders, Mr. Heinonen is continuing to follow similar trends for so many years in an unfettered manner.

Nevertheless, the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that it is required for the Agency to ensure implementation of the obligations by its officials, irrespective of their employment status, as international civil servants to avoid unauthorized public statements, and stop any further failure of complying with the Agency's relevant professional principles, rules and regulations.

Once again, while expressing serious concerns over the lack of required continued supervision by the Agency on its ex-officials, and firmly believing that lack of continuation of a working status with the Agency by Mr. Heinonen does not mean lack of continuation of him being accountable to the relevant rules and regulations, it is the high expectation of the Islamic Republic of Iran that the Agency take concrete action to address this situation, and to inform the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran about the policy, practice and procedures for dealing with such breach of professional etiquettes and codes of conduct enshrined in the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service by the former staff and officials of the Agency.

I would like to reiterate that the Islamic Republic of Iran also requests urgent instruction for investigation and proceeding of legal process in this regard by the Agency which would enhance confidence between the Member State and the Agency.

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