

General Conference

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Item 23 of the provisional agenda
(GC(53)/1, Add.1 and Add.2)

Communication received from the Resident Representative of Israel regarding the request to include in the agenda of the Conference an item entitled "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities"

1. The Director General has received a letter dated 9 September 2009 from the Resident Representative of Israel, relating to the inclusion in the agenda of the Conference of an item entitled "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities".
2. As requested therein, the letter is herewith circulated.

PERMANENT MISSION OF ISRAEL
TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY AND
THE PREPCOM - CTBTO



נציגות הקבע של ישראל
לסוכנות הבינלאומית לאנרגיה אטומית ולועדה המכינה
של הארגון ליישום האמנה למניעת ניסויים גרעיניים

9 September 2009

On behalf of the Government of Israel, I have the honour to convey to you Israel's Position on the request contained in document GC(53)/1/Add.1 of 8 July 2009.

It is the view of the State of Israel that the request to include an item titled "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities" in the agenda of the 53rd General Conference is substantially unwarranted and flawed.

The introduction of this discriminatory agenda item is undermining efforts to regain a consensus on the resolution "Applications of IAEA Safeguards in the Middle East", which has been lost since 2006 due, inter alia, to unwillingness of several Member States to sustain the agreed so called "package" on the Middle East. At the same time, failure to address most pressing proliferation concerns in the Middle East emerging from various reports of the IAEA's Director General, resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and the IAEA Board of Governors resolutions, coupled by diversion of the attention of the General Conference real issues, cast a heavy shadow on the IAEA's General Conference as a whole.

It must be noted that while Israel has made no secret of its fundamental reservations to the language and the modalities of the resolution entitled "Application of IAEA Safeguards in the Middle East", it adheres to the vision of a Middle East free of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles, which could eventually serve as an important complement to the overall peace, security and arms control arrangements in the region.

The General Conference would be best served by not singling out Israel and rejecting the request for the inclusion on its agenda of an ill motivated item on the so-called "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities".

I request that this letter be circulated to all IAEA member States.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my consideration.

Israel Michaeli
Ambassador
Resident Representative of Israel



Mr. Mohamed ElBaradei
Director General
IAEA