

General Conference

GC(55)/18 Date: 17 August 2011

General Distribution

Original: English

Fifty-fifth regular session

Item 21 of the provisional agenda (GC(55)/1 and Add.1)

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 2 August 2011 from the Resident Representative of Israel, relating to the request to include in the agenda of the Conference of an item entitled "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities".
- 2. As requested therein, the letter is herewith circulated.

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

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

2 August 2011

Excellency,

I have the honor to convey Israel's position regarding the request of the Arab States contained in document GC(55)/1/Add.1 dated 29 June 2011.

The request to include an item entitled "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities" on the Agenda of the 55th General Conference is substantially unwarranted and flawed, and should be rejected altogether by the General Committee of the General Conference and all Member States.

Despite the fact that the IAEA 54th General Conference rejected a draft resolution entitled "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities", the Arab States are requesting to reintroduce this political and divisive Agenda item that is designed to take hostage the entire work of the 55th General Conference.

The proposed Agenda item is completely outside the scope of the Agency's Statute and its professional mandate. Those who have requested the inclusion of this item on the Conference's Agenda are doing so for extraneous political goals. It is meant to divert attention from repeated cases of non-compliance by several Middle East States with their international obligations and commitments in the nuclear domain, which is a matter of grave concern to the international community. These pressing proliferation concerns in the Middle East are reflected in numerous reports of the IAEA's Director General, resolutions of the UN Security Council and the IAEA Board of Governors.

The Member States and the Agency would be best served by rejecting this request for the inclusion of such an ill motivated item on its Agenda. By so doing, the General Conference will send a clear message of its determination not to be detracted once again from its true missions and responsibilities.

Israel attaches much importance to the activities of the Agency, and endeavors to contribute to their constructive conduct and outcome, as demonstrated, inter alia, in its cooperative attitude towards the proposed IAEA Forum. In this spirit, Israel calls on the Arab States to manifest a similar positive approach, which is sine qua non for the success of the General Conference and other events under the auspices of the Agency.

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

Please accept, sir, the assurances of my highest consideration

Ambassador Ehud Azoulay
Permanent Representative of the state of Israel
To the IAEA and CTBTO PrepCom

Mr. Yukiya Amano Director General IAEA