

# General Conference

**GC(62)/14**

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## **Sixty-second regular session**

Item 20 of the provisional agenda  
(GC(62)/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 25 July 2018 from the Resident Representative of Israel, relating to the request from the Arab States that are members of the Agency to include in the agenda of the Conference an item entitled "Israeli nuclear capabilities".
2. As requested therein, the letter is herewith circulated.



25 July 2018

Excellency,

In reference to document GC(62)/1/Add.1, dated 24 July 2018, I have the honour to convey the position of the State of Israel in the enclosed document.

I would be grateful if this document could be circulated to the attention of all IAEA Member States.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**Merav Zafary-Odiz**



**Ambassador**

**Permanent Representative of Israel  
To the IAEA and the CTBTO PrepCom**

**H.E. Mr. Yukiya Amano**

**Director General**

**International Atomic Energy Agency**



In reference to a request submitted by the Ambassador of Qatar on behalf of the Arab States that are members of the IAEA dated 11 July 2018, to include in the agenda of the 62<sup>st</sup> General Conference (GC) an item entitled "Israeli nuclear capabilities," Israel wishes to state its position as follows:

Similar Arab initiatives and draft resolutions were already introduced and rejected by a growing majority of the Agency's member states in the 2010, 2013, 2014 and 2015 General Conferences. In 2016 and 2017, the issue was placed on the agenda, however a draft resolution was not submitted. While Israel viewed the Arab Group's refrainment from submitting a resolution under this agenda item as an encouraging step, we regretted that this issue was imposed on the agenda of the General Conference. It is therefore highly lamentable that the Arab States chose once again to burden the General Conference with this agenda item. It manifests a contentious, biased and fundamentally flawed approach, which politicizes the discussion in the General Conference. This issue is completely outside the scope of the IAEA's Statute and mandate, is unrelated to its agenda, and is injurious to the Agency's credibility as a professional organization.

Israel values the non-proliferation regime, acknowledges its significance, and continues to implement a responsible policy of restraint in the nuclear domain. Our neighbors' insistence on Israel's joining the NPT masks their refusal to engage sincerely and directly with Israel on regional security issues. It also ignores the repeated violations by Middle Eastern members of the Treaty, which aspired for nuclear weapons under the guise of NPT membership. Iraq, Libya, Iran, and Syria, supporters of this anti-Israeli initiative, were all found to be in flagrant violation

of their international obligations and commitments in this regard, and some continue to pursue and use banned weapons of mass destruction.

Tabling a politically-motivated draft resolution entitled "Israeli nuclear capabilities" under the requested agenda item would decidedly obstruct any attempt to establish direct regional engagement. It would further divert attention from the dire situation in many parts of our region, and the true dangers posed by those Middle Eastern countries that possess or pursue weapons of mass destruction, and even make use of them against their own civilians. This attempt will neither assist in the building of confidence and trust, paramount to any useful direct regional consultations, nor hasten the outcome of such a process. It will only serve to politicize the IAEA and harm its credibility. Israel thus hopes that the Arab Group refrains from tabling flawed draft resolutions this year, and in the years to come, as well as refrain from placing this issue on the Agency's agenda altogether.