

Information Circular

INFCIRC/1158

Date: 22 November 2023

General Distribution

Original: English, Arabic

Communication from the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the Agency

1. On 22 November 2023, the Secretariat received a Note Verbale, transmitting a letter from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the Agency, in his capacity as Chair of the Arab Group.
2. As requested, the Note Verbale and its attachment are herewith circulated for the information of all Member States.



Ref: **PMVIENNA-O-IAEA-23-186**

NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations and International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) – Office of the Director General – and has the honour to convey a letter addressed to HE Mr Rafael Mariano Grossi, Director General IAEA, from HE Ambassador Hamad Alkaabi, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to IAEA, in HE's capacity as chair of the Arab Group.

The UAE Permanent Mission kindly requests the assistance of the esteemed office to forward the letter to the Office of His Excellency the Director General.

The Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations and International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the International Atomic Energy Agency – Office of the Director General – the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 21 November 2023

Enclosure

To the
International Atomic Energy Agency
Office of the Director General
Vienna



His Excellency Mr. Rafael Mariano Grossi
Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency

(Greetings)

I have the honor to send you the following letter regarding the risks posed by Israel's nuclear capabilities, particularly against the backdrop of recent relevant developments, on behalf of the Arab Group in Vienna .

- 1- The Arab group finds itself prompted to take a stand on an extremely dangerous development related to the mandate of the International Atomic Energy Agency.
- 2- As the case with rest of the international community, the Arab group received with dismay the extremely dangerous, surprising and unprecedented statements made by the Israeli Minister of Heritage, that one of the solutions proposed to deal with the current situation in the Gaza Strip is to drop a nuclear bomb. Any use or threat to use nuclear weapons by any party, under any circumstances, represents a serious threat to regional and international peace and security, a flagrant violation of the rules of international law, and a systematic demolition of the international system for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
- 3- The Arab Group condemns in the strongest terms these aggressive and criminal statements. It also condemns any use or threat to use nuclear weapons by any party and under any circumstances, and stresses that the only way to confront the dangers of the use of nuclear weapons is their complete elimination in an internationally verifiable and irreversible manner, under the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency.
- 4- The Arab Group calls on the international community and all international organizations, including the Security Council, to take all necessary measures to implement its Resolution No. 487 of 1981, which called on Israel to subject all its nuclear facilities to the safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and its Resolution No. 687, which stressed the importance of establishing the free zone of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, in addition to implementing the United Nations General Assembly resolutions on "freeing the Middle East of nuclear weapons" and "the dangers of the spread of nuclear weapons in the Middle East."
- 5- The Arab Group stresses the rejection of the current situation in which Israel remains outside the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and insists that its nuclear facilities not be subject to the safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency, a situation that the Arab countries reject and have been seeking to address for decades.
- 6- Accordingly, the Arab Group calls on the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the agency's policy-making organs to:

Unofficial Translation

- A- Take a practical and clear position on this disturbing and dangerous development.
 - B- Take practical measures to enhance the implementation of relevant international resolutions, especially the resolutions of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency regarding establishing a zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, the latest of which was adopted in 2023, and on Israeli nuclear capabilities, the latest of which was adopted in 2009.
- 7- In conclusion, the Arab countries reserve their right to take all necessary measures to deal with the threat posed by Israeli nuclear capabilities through the various decision-making organs of the Agency. The Arab group will continue to keep this issue under follow-up within the policy-making organs of the International Atomic Energy Agency. We also request the Secretariat to circulate the text of this letter to Member States.

Please accept, Excellency , the assurances of my highest consideration

Ambassador/ Hamad A Kaabi
Chair of the Arab Group in Vienna
Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Vienna.