



Security Council

Distr.: General
19 December 2017

Original: English

Letter dated 19 December 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit the views of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the fourth report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) ([S/2017/1030](#)), which are as follows:

(a) The statement of the Islamic Republic of Iran following the adoption of Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) (see [S/2015/550](#)), and the positions contained therein, especially paragraphs 5, 11, 12 and 13, are hereby reiterated;

(b) The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action includes reciprocal commitments requiring implementation in “good faith and in a constructive atmosphere, based on mutual respect”. The Islamic Republic of Iran remains fully committed to the Plan of Action, as stated in clear terms in paragraph 2 of the Secretary-General’s report. Iran has yet to fully benefit from the Plan of Action, however, owing to the obstacles mainly created by the United States of America. The decision by the United States President, announced on 13 October 2017, regarding the Plan of Action, coupled with a set of new sanctions and irresponsible rhetoric by the United States senior government officials, has posed unprecedented risks to this historic diplomatic achievement. The statement of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Secretary-General on 13 October 2017 (see [S/2017/862](#)) further elaborates on the background and perilous trends following the United States’ recent decision;

(c) It is regrettable that, despite the clear mandate contained in paragraph 7 of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2016/44](#)) and recent requests by members of the Security Council, as well as repeated calls by the Islamic Republic of Iran, the report ignores shortcomings, inconsistencies and the lack of compliance in the implementation of the Plan of Action as a result of actions and policies undertaken by certain participants in the Plan of Action. As elaborated in my letters dated 17 July 2016 ([S/2016/626](#)), 18 January 2017 ([S/2017/51](#)) and 29 June 2017 ([S/2017/560](#)), any report on resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) that does not provide necessary information on the implementation of the commitments of all participants in the Plan of Action fails to furnish a complete picture to the members of the Council and the international community. Thus we continue to urge the Secretariat to respect the scope of its reporting mandate contained in paragraph 7 of the note by the President of the Security Council;

(d) Paragraphs 7, 10, 11, 12, 19, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35 and 38 of the report concern the Secretariat’s engagement in the examination of information regarding some



alleged actions. The Secretariat's involvement in such activities, which have taken place beyond its mandate and without obtaining approval of the Security Council, has already been questioned by Member States. It is deplorable that the Secretariat continues to undertake these activities on its own and without even prior notification to, let alone seeking authorization of, the Security Council, contrary to paragraph 10 of the note by the President of the Security Council;

(e) The Secretariat needs to refrain from highlighting and including in the report of the Secretary-General information from uncertified sources and media outlets. For instance, paragraphs 19 and 30 of the report have highlighted allegations that were later proved to be invalid and baseless. A similar practice has been applied in other parts of the report, including in paragraphs 25, 37, 40 and 41. This unacceptable practice, if it continues, will provide a platform in the report of the Secretary-General for giving credit to unfounded allegations against Iran and undermining the Plan of Action;

(f) The report refers to my letter dated 28 August 2017 (S/2017/739) regarding the violations by the United States of resolution 2231 (2015), including its annex B. However, it arbitrarily claims that "this information does not fall within the scope of this report". In this respect, it is noteworthy that paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of annex B of resolution 2231 (2015) establish the authorization mechanism for arms transfers to and from Iran. The report in paragraphs 27, 31 and 32 made clear that "no proposal had been approved by the Council pursuant to" the authorization mechanism and highlighted in paragraph 9 the adverse effects of a "sense of political uncertainty" on the engagement of Member States and the private sector with that process, which certainly is a result of United States' irresponsible actions. The United States not only rejects initiatives and proposals in the Security Council for putting the mechanism into operation, but also enacted a new law on 2 August 2017 that practically violates that part of the resolution by making it unlimited and ignoring the provision of authorization on a case-by-case basis. The United States, like any other State, shall be called upon to comply with resolution 2231 (2015);

(g) The report contains some allegations, misinformation and unnecessary details, such as those in paragraphs 25, 28, 29, 33 and 34, which have, in part, already been exhausted or proved baseless. We believe those flaws and shortcomings shed doubt on the integrity and credibility of the Secretary-General's report and change the focus of the work of the Security Council.

It would be appreciated if you could have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gholamali **Khoshroo**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative