



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

JAN 3 1 REC'D

18 January 2006

Dear Congressman Waxman,

Thank you for your letter of 4 November 2005. I fully understand and share your concerns about the recent remarks made by Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and by the Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Khamenei.

I have taken note of your request that I make sure the General Assembly passes a strong resolution of condemnation against these remarks. I believe my position has been made clear in the statements I issued on 27 October and 8 December 2005 expressing my dismay at the remarks attributed to President Ahmadinejad and emphasizing to Iran and others that, "under the United Nations Charter, all members have undertaken to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state". The Security Council also issued statements on 28 October and 9 December 2005 condemning the remarks attributed to the President. I am attaching copies of the statements for your reference.

I cancelled the Iran portion of my November 2005 visit to the Middle East because the ongoing controversy made it difficult to advance the agenda that I had wanted to discuss with Iran's leadership. I used my trip to the region to discuss the Middle East peace process and the right of all states to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries, free from threats or acts of force.

Thank you again for sharing your views with me. Please share this letter with your colleagues.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Annan'.

Kofi A. Annan

The Honourable Henry A. Waxman
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

28/10/2005



Security Council

SC/8542

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SECURITY COUNCIL PRESS STATEMENT ON IRAN

The following press statement on Iran was delivered today by Security Council President Mihnea Ioan Motoc (Romania):

The members of the Security Council condemn the remarks about Israel attributed to H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The members of the Security Council support the Secretary-General's statement of 27 October noting that, under the United Nations Charter, all Members have undertaken to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State.

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For information media • not an official record

9/12/2005



Security Council

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SECURITY COUNCIL PRESS STATEMENT ON REMARKS BY IRAN 'S PRESIDENT

The following press statement on the remarks by the President of Iran was delivered today by Security Council President Emyr Jones Parry (United Kingdom):

The members of the Security Council condemn the remarks about Israel and the denial of the Holocaust attributed to Dr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The members of the Security Council fully support the Secretary General's statement of 8 December, in which he recalled that the General Assembly had recently adopted a resolution rejecting denial of the Holocaust as a historical event, either in full or in part, and urged all Member States to educate their populations about the Holocaust.

The members of the Security Council reaffirm the rights and obligations of the State of Israel as a full and long-standing Member of the United Nations, and reaffirm that, under the United Nations Charter, all Members have undertaken to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State.

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27/10/2005



Secretary-General

SG/SM/10188

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SECRETARY-GENERAL DISMAYED AT IRANIAN PRESIDENT'S REMARKS ON ISRAEL

The following statement was issued today by the Spokesman for UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan:

The Secretary-General has read with dismay the remarks about Israel attributed to Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, President of Iran.

He reminds all Member States that Israel is a long-standing Member of the United Nations with the same rights and obligations as every other Member. He recalls in particular that, under the United Nations Charter, all Members have undertaken to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State.

The Secretary-General had already decided to visit Iran during the next few weeks, to discuss other issues. He now intends to place the Middle East peace process, and the right of all States in the area to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force, at the top of his agenda for that visit.

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08/12/2005



Secretary-General

SG/SM/10258

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SECRETARY-GENERAL SHOCKED AT REMARKS ON ISRAEL ATTRIBUTED TO PRESIDENT OF IRAN

The following statement was issued today by the Spokesman for UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan:

The Secretary-General was shocked to see the remarks attributed to President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in which he reportedly cast doubt on the truth of the Holocaust and suggested that the State of Israel should be moved from the Middle East to Europe.

The Secretary-General recalls that only last month the General Assembly passed a resolution which "rejects any denial of the Holocaust as an historical event, either in full or in part". He urges all Member States to combat such denial, and to educate their populations about the well established historical facts of the Holocaust, in which one third of the Jewish people were murdered, along with countless members of other minorities.

He also recalls his statement of 27 October, in which he reminded all Member States that Israel is a long-standing Member of the United Nations with the same rights and obligations as every other Member, and that, under the United Nations Charter, all Members have undertaken to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State.

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