

General Conference

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Item 21 of the provisional agenda
(GC(52)/1/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 18 August 2008 from the Resident Representative of Israel, relating to the inclusion in the agenda of the Conference of an item entitled "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities".
2. As requested therein, the letter and its attachment are herewith circulated.

**Text of letter dated 18 August 2008
from the Resident Representative of Israel**

I am forwarding the text of the position of Israel regarding the provisional agenda of the 52nd General Conference, in response to the request included in document GC(52)/1/Add.1 of 10 June 2008.

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

(Signed) Israel Michaeli
Ambassador,
Resident Representative to the IAEA

Israel's Position on GC(52)/1/Add.1 (Dated 10 June 2008)

It is the view of the State of Israel that the request to include an item titled "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities" in the agenda of the 52nd General Conference is substantially unwarranted and flawed.

The introduction of this discriminatory agenda item is undermining efforts to regain a long standing consensus on the resolution "Applications of IAEA Safeguards in the Middle East", which has been lost since 2006 due, inter alia, to unwillingness of several Member States to sustain the agreed "package" on the Middle East subject matter. At the same time, the failure to address most pressing proliferation concerns in the Middle East as emerge from the IAEA Director General's reports, the United Nations Security Council resolutions and by the IAEA Board of Governors' resolutions, casts a heavy shadow on the General Conference as a whole.

It must be noted that while Israel has made no secret of its fundamental reservations to the language and the modalities of the "Application of IAEA Safeguards in the Middle East" resolution, it continues to support the vision of a Middle East free of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles, which could eventually serve as an important complement to the overall peace, security and arms control in the region.

The General Conference would be best served by not singling out Israel and rejecting the request for the inclusion on its agenda of an ill motivated item on the so-called "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities".