

General Conference

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Item 21 of the provisional agenda
(GC(67)/1 and Add.1)

Communication received from the Permanent Representative of Israel regarding the request to include in the agenda of the Conference an item entitled "Israeli Nuclear Capabilities"

1. The Director General received a letter dated 4 July 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Israel, enclosing a document 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, the letter and its enclosure are herewith circulated for the attention of all IAEA Member States.



July 4, 2023

Excellency,

In reference to document GC(67)/1/Add.1, dated 23 June 2023, I have the honor 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.



Sincerely,


David Nusbaum

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Israel
to the IAEA and the CTBTO PrepCom

H.E. Mr. Rafael Mariano Grossi
Director General



International Atomic Energy Agency

In reference to a request submitted by the Ambassador of Jordan on behalf of the Arab States that are members of the IAEA, dated 14 June 2023, to include in the agenda of the 67th 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. Placing this issue on the agenda, year after year, serves no purpose other than to encumber the General Conference and to impede and distract its proceedings with politicization. In the past seven years, the issue was placed on the agenda, however, a draft resolution was not submitted. Excluding this issue from the agenda of the GC altogether would allow the IAEA and its Member States to direct the necessary attention and resources to the well-known urgent challenges that the Agency is facing. These include, among others, Middle Eastern Member States which are in constant violation of their international obligations and commitments, and continue to pursue banned weapons of mass destruction, while impeding the Agency's efforts in this regard.

Therefore, Israel regrets that this issue is once again imposed by the Arab Group on the agenda of the GC. This manifests a contentious, biased and fundamentally flawed approach, which politicizes the discussions in the General Conference, and singles out one Member State. The Arab Group's request is completely outside the scope of the IAEA's Statute and mandate, is unrelated to the agenda of the GC, 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 self-restraint in the nuclear realm. Israel has held a consistently constructive approach regarding the possibility of a direct regional security dialogue with its neighbors, based on consensus, inclusiveness and emanating from within the region.

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, and will only serve the supporters of this agenda item, namely Iran and the Arab Group. This attempt will neither assist in the building of confidence and trust, paramount to any meaningful direct regional consultations, nor hasten the outcome of such a process. Therefore, Israel hopes that the Arab Group refrains from tabling a draft resolution this year, and in the years to come, as well as refrain from placing this issue on the Agency's agenda altogether.