

## Information Circular

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**General Distribution**

English

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### Communication dated 29 May 2006 received from the Resident Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Agency concerning a letter from the Secretary General of the League of Arab States to the Director General

1. The Secretariat has received a letter dated 29 May 2006 from the Resident Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic attaching a letter dated 28 May 2006 from Mr. Amre Moussa, Secretary General of the League of Arab States, to the Director General.
2. In the light of the request expressed by the Resident Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic in his letter of 29 May 2006, his letter and the letter of the Secretary General of the League of Arab States are attached for the information of all Member States.

Embassy of the Syrian Arabic Republic  
Vienna

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to attach the letter sent from His Excellency the Secretary General of the League of Arab States, Mr. Amre Moussa, dated 28 May 2006 to His Excellency Mr. Mohamed ElBaradei, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, concerning the assistance provided by the British Government to Israel in the production of its nuclear weapons by supplying it with heavy water in 1958, and also supplying it with numerous proscribed materials used in the manufacture of nuclear weapons, such as uranium and plutonium, thereby accelerating development of the Israeli nuclear programme in 1966, according to official British documents disclosed recently.

It is worth mentioning that the aforementioned letter of the Secretary General of the League refers to the previous letter to Your Excellency dated 8 August 2005.

I should like to convey to you the request of the Secretary General of the League of Arab States that you look into keeping him informed of the steps the IAEA intends to take to verify the information contained in the attached letter, which has a bearing on security in the Middle East as well as on international efforts and the role of the Agency in consolidating the global non-proliferation regime.

Please be so kind as to circulate this letter and the letter from the Secretary General of the League of Arab States to the Member States of the Agency.

(signed) Ambassador Safwan Ghanem  
Resident Representative to the United Nations  
Office and the International Organizations in  
Vienna

Mr. Mohamed ElBaradei  
Director General, IAEA

League of Arab States  
Secretary General

28 May 2006

Dear Sir,

Further to my letter dated 8 August 2005 concerning the official British documents which had been disclosed about Britain's sale to Israel of one key element for its nuclear programme, I have the honour to write to you once again following the disclosure of further serious information relating to assistance to Israel in the development of its nuclear programme enabling it to produce nuclear weapons as the British Government supplied it with numerous proscribed materials used in the manufacture of nuclear weapons, such as lithium and plutonium. The information indicated that the British Government sold lithium material to Israel enabling it to manufacture nuclear weapons, and also supplied it with a quantity of plutonium. The reports indicated that the volume, although small, nevertheless enabled Israel to accelerate the development of its nuclear programme in 1966.

The disclosure of this important information, in addition to the previous information indicating the sale by the United Kingdom of 20 tons of heavy water to Israel in 1959, makes it all the more urgent to examine the extent of the British Government's responsibility in assisting Israel in the production of its nuclear weapons.

I believe that you will agree with me that the fact that this issue dates back a long time does not absolve the States concerned of their responsibilities and does not eliminate the risks and implications for the region. It confirms what has been echoed by many about the partiality and selectivity in application of the non-proliferation concepts and also has a bearing on the credibility of the international non-proliferation regime.

I have already requested that an official investigation be carried out into this information to clarify the facts and the ambiguities pertaining to these events and the negative ramifications both for regional security and on the efforts aimed at establishing a region free from weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.

Would you therefore kindly keep me informed about the steps which the IAEA intends to take to verify this information, which has a bearing on security in the Middle East as well as on international efforts and the role of the Agency in consolidating the non-proliferation regime.

(signed) Amre Moussa

Mr. Mohamed ElBaradei  
Director General, IAEA