



Security Council

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Letter dated 5 July 2022 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I am writing to you with reference to the letter dated 24 June 2022 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the Security Council and the Security Council Facilitator for the implementation of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) ([S/2022/514](#)) in which, with respect to annex B to resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#), the United States continues to level misleading and unfounded accusations against my country.

In our previous communications, including a letter dated 7 January 2022 ([S/2022/15](#)), we have stated our consistent position on this issue and reiterated that Iran's space and missile programmes, including the launch of space vehicles, fall outside of the purview or competence of Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) and its annexes.

As a responsible State, Iran has never engaged in any activity that breaches its obligations under resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#). Accordingly, Iran categorically rejects those unfounded and misleading allegations contained in the aforementioned letter, as well as the United States' futile and desperate attempts to draw a fictitious link between Iranian missile and space programmes and paragraph 3 of annex B to resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#).

It is extremely ironic that the United States, which has a long-standing record of violating international law and the Charter of the United Nations, accuses Iran of violating Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#).

The United States is in flagrant violation of its explicit legal obligations under Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) by withdrawing from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, which constitutes a material breach of international law. The United States also flagrantly violates these obligations through its subsequent policies and practices, including the implementation of unilateral sanctions against the Iranian people, exerting unprecedented pressure on other countries to either disregard their obligations under resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) or face punishment. This is unprecedented in the Security Council's history, and it is especially reprehensible and repugnant for a permanent member of the Security Council to threaten other responsible Member States for respecting the Council's resolution.

In this regard, the United States must take full responsibility for such an internationally wrongful act for which it must be held accountable.



As has frequently been underlined, the exploration of space and its utilization for peaceful purposes constitute inherent and fundamental rights of all Member States under international law. In this regard, Iran's use of space launch vehicles is merely a part of scientific and technological activities related to the application of space technology in areas such as disaster management, environmental monitoring, natural resource management, communication, human health, food security and sustainable agriculture. Iran is determined to exercise its inherent rights.

The international community must be extremely watchful of the politically motivated strategy of the United States and some other industrialized nations, which attempt to demonize benign technologies, such as space technology, that are essential for the socioeconomic development of all nations, particularly developing countries, under the absurd pretext of proliferation concerns. This trend poses a serious threat to the ability of States to freely exercise their inalienable right to access all areas of space and celestial bodies, their freedom to explore and utilize space for peaceful purposes, as well as their unrestricted access to space through space science, technology and applications.

Instead of taking such provocative, irresponsible and contradictory positions, as well as fabricating baseless allegations against Iran regarding the implementation of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#), the United States must comply unconditionally, fully and genuinely with all of its respective legal obligations under that resolution, particularly its annex A, namely, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

Finally, given the mandate set forth in the note by the Council's President on Security Council tasks under resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) ([S/2016/44](#)), the Secretary-General is therefore expected to seriously respect his mandate and avoid reporting on such irrelevant and baseless claims in his next reports on the implementation of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#). Instead, based on the foregoing terms of reference, the Secretary-General is kindly requested to report on the violation of that resolution by the United States.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) **Majid Takht Ravanchi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative