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Agenda items 74 and 85

Promotion and protection of human rights

The rule of law at the national and international levels

Letter dated 11 January 2022 from the representatives of Canada, Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the joint statement of the International Coordination and Response Group for the victims of flight PS752, marking two years since the tragic downing of flight PS752, issued on 6 January 2022 (see annex).

The ministers representing Canada, Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom honoured the memory of the 176 innocent passengers and crew who lost their lives on 8 January 2020, when the Iranian military fired two surface-to-air missiles and destroyed Ukraine International Airlines flight 752 near Tehran. As stated by the Group, the victims' families deserve transparency, justice and accountability for this reprehensible tragedy.

We should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 74 and 85.

(Signed) Richard **Arbeiter**

Chargé d'affaires, a.i.

Ambassador

Deputy Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations

(Signed) Anna Karin **Eneström**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations

(Signed) Sergiy **Kyslytsya**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations

(Signed) Barbara **Woodward**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations



Annex to the letter dated 11 January 2022 from the representatives of Canada, Sweden, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the International Coordination and Response Group for the victims of flight PS752 marking two years since the tragic downing of flight PS752

6 January 2022

The International Coordination and Response Group for the victims of Flight PS752 today issued the following joint statement:

“Almost two years ago, in the early morning of January 8, 2020, the Iranian military fired two surface-to-air missiles and destroyed Ukraine International Airlines Flight 752 near Tehran.

“We, Ministers representing Canada, Sweden, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom, honour the memory of the 176 innocent passengers and crew who lost their lives that day. We will never forget this senseless loss of life and stand in solidarity with the victims’ families. They deserve transparency, justice and accountability for this reprehensible tragedy.

“As a group of states that have been specially affected by Iran’s breaches of international law, we have united our efforts to ensure that the interests of the victims and their families are served, and that there is respect for the rule of law. With this common purpose, we have consistently called upon Iran to engage in good-faith negotiations to fulfil its international legal obligations to make full reparations for the downing of Flight PS752.

“Most recently, the Coordination Group asked Iran to commit to engaging in negotiations with the Group by January 5, 2022. Unfortunately, on December 27, 2021, we received an unequivocal response from Iran that it does not see a need to negotiate with the Group. After initially agreeing to engage with the Group during our first round of negotiations held on July 30, 2020, Iran is now categorically rejecting any further negotiations with the Group related to our collective demand for reparations. As reparations are owed to the affected states, this matter must be discussed collectively, so that all victims are treated fairly and equally.

“It is clear that Iran continues to avoid its international legal responsibilities, including by refusing to negotiate further with the Coordination Group and make full reparations for its actions. We will not stand for this affront to the memories of the 176 innocent victims.

“Despite our best efforts over the past two years and multiple attempts to resolve this matter through negotiations, the Coordination Group has determined that further attempts to negotiate with Iran on reparations for the destruction of Flight PS752 at this time are futile. The Coordination Group will now focus on subsequent actions to take to resolve this matter in accordance with international law.

“We remain united in our commitment to hold Iran accountable for the actions and omissions of its civil and military officials that led to the illegal downing of Flight PS752 by ensuring that Iran makes full reparations for its breaches of international law.”