



## Security Council

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### **Letter dated 2 June 2023 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council**

Further to our letter dated 24 May 2023 ([S/2023/376](#)), I am writing in response to the joint letter dated 31 May 2023 from the Permanent Representatives of France, Germany and the United Kingdom to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council ([S/2023/398](#)), wherein the representatives of these three countries perpetuate a pattern of baseless accusations against Iran. Regrettably, they have erroneously and baselessly interpreted Iran's recent missile launch on 25 May 2023 as a violation of Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#). In response to these unfounded allegations, I would like to firmly reiterate Iran's principled position once again:

1. The Islamic Republic of Iran categorically rejects the claim in the letter that Iran's recent missile launch is inconsistent with Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#). Iran stressed that its missile and space programmes, including the recent launch, are within Iran's legitimate rights and in full conformity with international law.

2. The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly and persistently objected to the arbitrary and misleading interpretations of paragraph 3 of annex B of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) that certain countries, including the authors of the letter, have employed to promote their own political agendas. It is important to note that paragraph 3 of annex B of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) is unambiguous and requires no further interpretation. Iran has consistently emphasized its firm and principled position against these flawed and misleading interpretations, as reiterated in its recent letter dated 24 May 2023 ([S/2023/376](#)). Iran firmly asserts that such distortions and misleading interpretations cannot and will not be accepted.

3. The authors repeated their invocation of the non-consensual and non-universally agreed upon definitions of the Missile Technology Control Regime, which they used to propagate technical disinformation and establish a false connection between paragraph 3 of annex B of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) and Iran's missile launches. This line of reasoning is fundamentally flawed and based solely on erroneous assumptions. Furthermore, the Missile Technology Control Regime is an exclusive "informal political understanding" among only 35 States, and its criteria are not legally binding, even for its members. Accordingly, any attempt to characterize the MTCR and its criteria as an international consensus-based agreement or universally accepted is unethical, deceptive, suspicious and unacceptable.



4. The Islamic Republic of Iran has consistently and unequivocally emphasized that its missile and space programmes, including the launches of ballistic missiles or space launch vehicles, fall outside the purview and competence of Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) and its annexes.

5. It is evident that these baseless allegations by the authors not only aim to deliberately mislead the international community but also to manipulate the mandate of the United Nations Secretariat to serve their own narrow political interests. It is worth noting that these particular States conveniently overlook their own non-compliance with resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#), despite their repeated calls for adherence. Iran views these continued accusations as a cynical ploy by the authors to divert attention from their significant non-compliance with their commitments under resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). Furthermore, these States have failed to take appropriate measures to redress the damages caused by the United States' illegitimate withdrawal from the JCPOA.

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

(Signed) Zahra **Ershadi**  
Ambassador  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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