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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-eighth session
Item 64 of the preliminary list*
DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF GOOD-
NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-eighth year

Note verbale dated 20 April 1983 from the Permanent Representative
of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to enclose the statement submitted to the First Extraordinary Session of the Regional Organization for the Protection of Marine Environment by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It will be highly appreciated if the enclosed statement is distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under item 64 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

* A/38/50.

ANNEX

FIRST EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE REGIONAL ORGANIZATION
FOR THE PROTECTION OF MARINE ENVIRONMENT

Distinguished Colleagues,

As you are well aware of and as reflected in the communique 1016, dated March 2, 1983, of the Supreme Command of Iraqi forces, two oil wells in Noruz field have caught fire due to Iraqi rocket attacks on this oil field in the course of the months of January, February and March. And now, crude oil is directly leaking into the water from another oil well in the field.

You certainly know that such acts on the part of Iraq flagrantly violates Article 35 of the Geneva Convention on the safety of environment, and non-resort to military actions that may lead to the pollution of marine environment. They also violate the text and spirit of Kuwait Regional Convention on Co-operation for the Protection of Marine Environment from Pollution, and the protocol and regional co-operation for campaigning against pollutions from oil and other toxic materials.

The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while expressing its gratitude to the delegations of the member states to the convention for their efforts made for elimination of the pollution of the marine environment caused by the said acts, and being aware of the fact that such pollutions are threatening the countries in the region, wishes to announce that, as they have certainly heard in the news, last night (April 13, 1983, corresponding to Farwardin 24, 1362) Iraqi forces once again made these Iranian offshore fields the target of their attacks. The distinguished delegates should

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lend their attention to this fact that this recent act has taken place at a time when the Iraqi delegation to the present session pretends to be eager to eliminate the problems that Iraq has caused; last night's attack by Iraq proved the opposite. And the time chosen by Iraq for this attack, in fact, demonstrated the absolute unwillingness of Iraq to co-operate with this session, leading it to a defeat, while on the contrary, the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has done its best to make this session a success, reacted positively and constructively to the desires of people of the region, and has very well demonstrated its good will.

Considering the above facts, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly protests to such acts which contradict the spirit of the convention of Kuwait and its appended protocols, and declares that it expects the heads of the delegations of the member states to strongly condemn Iraq's inhuman acts and take firm steps, on the basis of the obligations and duties assigned to them within the framework of the Convention of Kuwait, to fulfill these obligations and prevent the weakening of the Convention.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, despite all such inhuman acts, is as before prepared to carry out its obligations, as regards other member states, accepted within the framework of this Convention.

Since the recent act taken by Iraq has been aimed at destroying the wells in the Iranian oil fields, Abouzar and Soroush (previously called Ardeshir and Sirous) and further polluting the waters in the region, it is kindly requested that the present letter be registered in the Secretariat of the Convention as an official document and as a step taken for the implementation of Paragraph B of the Convention.
