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NOTE VERBALE DATED 14 AUGUST 1990 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF
AUSTRIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to inform that in three official statements, the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Federal Government of Austria respectively have publicly condemned the invasion, occupation and subsequent illegal annexation of Kuwait by the military forces of Iraq.

On 2 August 1990, the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs formally condemned the invasion of Kuwait as an act which constitutes a glaring breach of the Charter of the United Nations and called upon Iraq to withdraw its military forces from Kuwait and to seek a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

In a formal statement released on 9 August 1990, the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs declared that it considers the annexation of Kuwait by Iraq null and void.

Immediately after the adoption of Security Council resolution 661 (1990), the Federal Chancellor and the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs declared that Austria would autonomously apply all the sanctions imposed by the United Nations Security Council against Iraq; the legal measures required will be taken by the Ministries concerned.

On 13 August 1990, the Council of Ministers took note of a report submitted by the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Federal Chancellor, the Federal Minister for Economic Affairs, the Federal Minister for Finance, the Federal Minister for the Interior, the Federal Minister for Food and Agriculture, the Federal Minister for Justice and the Federal Minister for Public Works and Transport, which specifies the measures to be taken by the Austrian authorities, referring in particular to the following:

(a) Prohibition of the import, export and trans-shipment of any commodities or products from or to Iraq or Kuwait through amending the Foreign Trade Act by governmental decree. In accordance therewith:

- (i) All imports from Iraq and Kuwait will be subject to prior approval, which will not be granted by the Government. The same applies to exports and trans-shipments to Iraq and Kuwait, except for supplies intended strictly for medical purposes and, in humanitarian circumstances, foodstuffs;
- (ii) Trucks from Iraq and Kuwait will no longer obtain transport licences and the shipment of products from or to Iraq and Kuwait will be prohibited.

In order to establish even more severe penal sanctions relating to the export of arms and ammunition, an additional government decree will be issued on the export of all these goods, including those for civilian use on the basis of pertinent legislation;

(b) The Austrian National Bank has made all financial transactions by residents of Iraq and Kuwait and entities controlled directly or indirectly by them subject to prior approval, which will be granted only to applications in accordance with Security Council resolution 661 (1990).

Those governmental measures that have not yet entered into force will be effective on 17 August 1990 at the latest.

The Federal Government of Austria will submit in due time to the Secretary-General of the United Nations a comprehensive report about the sanctions imposed against Iraq in accordance with Security Council resolution 661 (1990) and in response to the Secretary-General's note No. SCPC/7/90 (1) dated 8 August 1990.

