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LETTER DATED 17 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF TUNISIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a communiqué issued by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Tunisia on 17 January 1991.

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

(Signed) Ahmed GHEZAL  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

Annex

[Original: Arabic]

The Tunisian Government has received the news of the outbreak of war in the Gulf region with serious concern and profound displeasure.

Tunisia, which upholds the values of dialogue and the principle of solving disputes by peaceful means, expresses its distress at the tragedy being undergone by the Arab community and its sorrow at the ordeal to which the two fraternal peoples of Iraq and Kuwait are subjected. It recalls its appeals and intensive endeavours since the outbreak of the crisis to secure the withdrawal of Iraqi forces, to solve the essence of the conflict by peaceful means in an Arab context and to avoid the internationalization and complication of the issue.

In conformity with these principles, to which it has always adhered, and in order to safeguard international peace and Arab capabilities, Tunisia addresses an appeal to the conscience of the world. It calls upon the Security Council to press ahead with the adoption of urgent decisive measures to put an end to the current fighting and to settle the conflict by peaceful means, in accordance with the requirements of international legitimacy.

