



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
18 January 2019  
English  
Original: Spanish

---

**Seventy-third session**  
Agenda item 8  
**General debate**

## **Letter dated 20 December 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly**

I have the honour to write to you in reference to the letter from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran dated 24 October 2018 and its annex ([A/73/456](#)).

In this regard, I have the honour to transmit herewith the response of the Argentine Republic to the comments made by the Islamic Republic of Iran in the above-mentioned letter (see annex). I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 8.

*(Signed)* Alejandro **Verdier**  
Minister Plenipotentiary  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



**Annex to the letter dated 20 December 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly**

**Response of the Argentine Republic to the remarks made by the Islamic Republic of Iran in document [A/73/456](#)**

Concerning the “Remarks in response to the address made by the President of the Argentine Republic during the general debate of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly” transmitted with the letter dated 24 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the President of the General Assembly ([A/73/456](#)), the Argentine Republic considers it necessary to make the following clarifications.

In his address to the General Assembly, President Mauricio Macri said that “considering that next year will mark 25 years since the attack on the Argentine Israeli Mutual Association, I should like once again to ask the Islamic Republic of Iran to cooperate with the Argentine judicial authorities to advance investigations into the most brutal terrorist attack we have ever experienced on our territory.”

The above statement reflects the fact that, unfortunately, to date, the repeated requests of the Argentine Government made to the Iranian Government to cooperate with the investigation of the attack, including by responding to the 18 letters rogatory sent between 2000 and 2012, as well as by following up on requests for the extradition of Iranian citizens wanted by the Argentine justice system, remain unanswered.

The Argentine Republic has welcomed the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran to hold a technical meeting with Argentine legal authorities to clarify “the ambiguities and translation problems” that that country claims to be the obstacle to a response to the letters rogatory sent by the Argentine justice system in the case of the Argentina Israeli Mutual Association.

For the meeting to be constructive and beneficial for both sides, the Argentine Government has repeatedly asked the Iranian Government for further details of the alleged “ambiguities and translation problems”. However, as Iran has so far failed to respond, it has not been possible to hold the meeting.

It should be noted that the Islamic Republic of Iran states that “the Argentine Government is not prepared to implement the agreement that it signed”, referring to the memorandum of understanding signed on 27 January 2013 between the Government of the Argentine Republic and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the terrorist attack on the headquarters of the Argentine Israeli Mutual Association in Buenos Aires on 18 July 1994.

As the Iranian Government is fully aware, the aforementioned memorandum never entered into force because neither Argentina nor Iran reported compliance with the domestic requirements for that purpose in accordance with article 6 of the document itself.

Moreover, in 2017, the Argentine Government informed the Iranian Government, in notes addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iran, Mohammad Javad Zarif, by the then Minister for Foreign Affairs of Argentina, Susana Malcorra (dated 9 June 2017), and by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Jorge Faurie (dated 4 December 2017), that both the memorandum of understanding and Act No. 26.843, by which it was adopted, had been declared “unconstitutional” by the

Argentine justice system and that it was the will of the Argentine State not to become a party to that bilateral understanding.

Consequently, the memorandum clearly never entered into force nor had any legal effect under international law.

As President Macri indicated in his latest address to the General Assembly, the Argentine Republic “will not cease its efforts to bring all those involved in the attacks before Argentine courts so that they can be tried and ultimately sentenced” and also called on “countries that are friendly to Argentina to assist us by not harbouring under diplomatic immunity any of the accused for whom international arrest warrants and INTERPOL red notices have been issued.”

---