



Security Council

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Letter dated 16 January 2024 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, and further to our letter dated 3 January 2024 ([S/2024/14](#)), I wish to inform you that the Islamic Republic of Iran, as one of the main victims of terrorism, has, in the exercise of its inherent right of self-defence under international law and the Charter of the United Nations, undertaken anti-terrorist operations. These operations include targeted attacks against the bases and facilities of terrorist groups situated in Syria and Iraq. In this regard, I would like to emphasize the following:

1. In the early hours of 16 January 2024, simultaneous anti-terrorism operations were carried out by the firing of several ballistic missiles, precisely targeting facilities of Da'esh and Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham, two designated terrorist organizations, in Idlib and the region under occupation of the terrorist group in the north-east of the Syrian Arab Republic. In addition, an intelligence unit used by anti-Iranian terrorist groups associated with the Israeli regime in Erbil, Iraqi Kurdistan Region, was targeted. The facility has served as a base for intelligence and sabotage operations in Iran.

2. Iran's anti-terrorism operations were undertaken in response to the recent heartbreaking terrorist attacks in Kerman, Iran on 3 January 2024, which resulted in the martyrdom of over 100 innocent civilians, including children and women, with many others sustaining injuries (see [S/2024/14](#)). The Da'esh-affiliated groups claimed responsibility. Fortunately, the reprehensible attacks in Kerman received strong and unanimous condemnation by the members of the Security Council.

3. The operations were necessary and proportionate, precisely targeting bases of terrorist groups and fully respecting Iran's international obligations, especially international humanitarian law.

4. The Islamic Republic of Iran reiterates, once again, its unwavering commitment to fully respect the national sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic. As a responsible member of the United Nations, the Islamic Republic of Iran reaffirms its adherence to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Furthermore, Iran reiterates its inherent rights, as recognized by international law, to safeguard its sovereignty, its national security and its citizens against any threats or attacks. This commitment reflects Iran's resolve to protect its interests and maintain peace and security within its borders.



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

(*Signed*) Amir Saeid **Iravani**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
