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LETTER DATED 2 AUGUST 1988 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to send you herewith the text of the statement which the Committee of Seven established by the Council of the League of Arab States to follow the conflict between Iran and Iraq issued at the end of the meeting it held today in Baghdad, in the presence of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries members of the Committee and of the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ismat KITTANI

ANNEX

Statement issued on 2 August 1988 at Baghdad

The Committee of Seven established by the Council of the League of Arab States to follow the conflict between Iran and Iraq met on 2 August 1988 at Baghdad, in the presence of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries members of the Committee and of the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States.

The Committee held a comprehensive and thorough debate on the situation created by the evolution of the war and the successes of Iraq, which have enabled the latter to liberate all the occupied parts of its territory and to repel the Iranian aggression which has lasted for eight years and constitutes a threat to peace and security in the region and to international peace and security. The Committee welcomed the successes achieved by the glorious army, wise leaders and great people of Iraq.

The Committee also considered the question of the acceptance by Iran of Security Council resolution 598 (1987), announced one year after the adoption of that resolution.

In keeping with all the efforts it has made since its establishment with a view to the achievement, between Iran and Iraq and in the region, of a just and durable peace based on mutual respect for the sovereignty of each country and non-interference in the internal affairs of others, the Committee stated that it was in favour of direct negotiations between Iran and Iraq, under the supervision of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in order to ensure the attainment of a comprehensive and lasting resolution of the conflict and the conclusion of a peace agreement between the two countries. The Committee regards the request for direct negotiations made by Iraq as evidence of good faith and a determination to initiate forthwith the implementation of the aforementioned resolution.

The Committee also considers that the conclusion of a comprehensive agreement on the implementation of resolution 598 (1987), in accordance with the sequence of its paragraphs, constitutes the only reasonable basis for any peace efforts.

Prompted by the desire to see the war end and give way to a comprehensive and durable peace, the Committee urges the international community, and in particular the States members of the Security Council, to make every effort to ensure that a comprehensive and just resolution of the conflict is reached through direct negotiations, leading to a comprehensive and durable peace agreement.

