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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Items 40 and 48 of the provisional agenda*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROLONGATION OF THE
ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-third year

Letter dated 1 August 1988 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement of the spokesman of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, dated 29 July 1988, with regard to the cease-fire taking shape in the ongoing war between Iran and Iraq:

1. Israel welcomes the willingness of the sides to accept the cease-fire presently taking shape in the Iran-Iraq war, and the prospects of bringing the bloodshed to an end and advancing towards a resolution of the conflict by way of political negotiations.

2. This war, eight years in duration, should have proved to all countries in the area that conflicts can be resolved only through peace via negotiations.

3. Several barriers were breached in this war: massive bombardment of civilian populations, use of land-to-land missiles against cities, assault on freedom of shipping in international lanes, and use of chemical weapons - the latter prohibited by international conventions.

International efforts must be made to restore all countries' adherence to the accepted ethical norms and the international conventions that prohibit the use of chemical weapons.

* A/43/150.

4. Israel expresses its hope that Iraq and Iran end the war by way of negotiations, and search for channels by which they may live in peace and as good neighbours - with each other and with all countries in the region.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 40 and 48 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Johanan BEIN
Ambassador
Acting Permanent Representative
