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Thirty-first session
Item 28 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-first year

Letter dated 29 March 1976 from the Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

At the 1897th meeting of the Security Council the representative of Libya stated:

"This racist entity in the Middle East must be destroyed and it will be destroyed one day" (S/PV.1897, p. 92).

The Security Council, in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter of the United Nations, is the United Nations organ entrusted with "the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security", and the elections of its non-permanent members are guided by the provisions of Article 23 of the Charter as follows:

"The General Assembly shall elect ten other Members of the United Nations to be non-permanent members of the Security Council, due regard being specially paid, in the first instance to the contribution of Members of the United Nations to the maintenance of international peace and security and to the other purposes of the Organization."

I wish to record the Government of Israel's most emphatic protest against this call for the destruction of a Member State, which was made by a member of the Security Council, at a public meeting of the Security Council, in flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations.

The fact that such a statement could be made by a member of the Security Council, whose Government, according to the official spokesmen of Egypt and Tunisia, sends assassins to kill the leaders of neighbouring countries, only serves to emphasize the serious decline in the moral standing of this important organ of the United Nations.

* A/31/50.

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I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 28 of the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-first session, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Chaim HERZOG
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations
