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NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The attached message dated 2 July 1984 from the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Secretary-General in response to his message of 29 June 1984 (S/16663) is circulated as a document of the Security Council as envisaged in the message of the Secretary-General.

Annex

Text of message dated 2 July 1984 from the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Secretary-General

I acknowledge the receipt of your message about terminating the use of chemical weapons in the course of the war imposed on Iran by Iraq.

As you are well aware, despite the fact that the Iraqi régime in contravention of all international norms and conventions, has resorted to extensive use of chemical weapons against our forces, the Islamic Republic of Iran has never indulged in retaliation. The Islamic Republic of Iran continues to remain strongly against any resort to these inhuman weapons and unconditionally condemns their use.

Although the Iraqi use of chemical weapons drew widespread international condemnation, the United Nations Security Council in continuation of its partial and one-sided policies, chose to adopt the same position as it previously had in the case of the destruction of civilian areas. Unfortunately, the same position was maintained regarding the Iraqi disruption of the security in the Persian Gulf.

Notwithstanding these bitter facts, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, based on its respect for the Islamic and humanitarian principles and in order to reaffirm its good faith, welcomes your appeal and declares that it is fully committed to continue with its policy not to use chemical weapons. However, I deem it necessary to express, once again, our total lack of faith in the commitments undertaken by the Iraqi régime. The claim as to the concentration of military forces in civilian areas (civilian population centres) is merely an excuse for bombarding these areas. It therefore justifies our lack of confidence in the Iraqi régime's adherence to its commitments, and as such it requires Your Excellency's vigilance and firm position.
