

**Security Council**

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**Identical letters dated 2 October 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council**

I write this letter of complaint regarding a substantial increase in attacks emanating from the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip. In the month of September alone, 13 rockets and mortars were fired at Israel — including one rocket earlier today — threatening nearly 1 million civilians who live in range of these deadly weapons. In addition, Israel has witnessed 15 other attacks launched with light weapons and with anti-tank missiles, respectively, as well as multiple attempts by terrorists to infiltrate Israel and plant explosives along the fence between the Gaza Strip and Israel.

While Israel seeks to renew the peace process, the aforementioned attacks reflect a dangerous trend. Israel expects the United Nations and the broader international community to condemn this latest surge of violence. Furthermore, I wish to stress that Israel will continue to act in self-defence in accordance with its inherent right under Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

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

*(Signed)* Gabriela **Shalev**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

