



*In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful*

No. 2580837

1 August 2025

Excellency,

On instructions from my Government, I categorically reject the baseless allegations against and unwarranted references made to the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Secretary-General's report on Children and Armed Conflict, contained in document A/79/878-S/2025/247. These references are inaccurate and devoid of factual and legal foundation. In this regard, I wish to clarify the following:

1. With regard to the allegations and references made in paragraph 86 and paragraph 318 of the report, it must be stressed that Iran's military operations have been strictly limited to counterterrorism objectives. These operations were conducted in full conformity with international humanitarian law and were directed exclusively at identified terrorist installations and camps used by terrorist armed groups for planning, training, and launching terrorist operations against Iranian civilians and infrastructure. At no point were civilians or civilian objects targeted.

2. Concerning the references and allegations in the context of the situation on the Security Council's agenda relating to Israel and Palestine, as cited in paragraphs 95, 97, and 98 of the report, Iran's actions were legitimate, proportionate, and taken in the exercise of its inherent right to self-defense under Article 51 of the UN Charter. These actions were in direct response to the escalating pattern of Israeli aggression and terrorist acts targeting Iran's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and diplomatic premises, including:

- The Israeli missile attack on Iran's diplomatic premises in Damascus on 1 April 2024;
- The assassination of Mr. Ismail Haniyeh, a former Palestinian Prime Minister, in Tehran on 31 July 2024;
- The injury of Iran's Ambassador to Lebanon in a targeted Israeli terrorist attacks in Beirut;
- The deliberate targeting of civilians and Iranian personnel in Lebanon on 17 September 2024; and
- The assassination of Iranian Brigadier General Abbas Nilforushan on 27 September 2024.



Iran's responses were carefully calibrated to target only military assets and installations linked to Israeli aggression and its terrorist operations, with meticulous operational planning to avoid civilian harm.

3. With reference to paragraph 110 of the report, the Islamic Republic of Iran reiterates its steadfast adherence to its obligations under international humanitarian and human rights law. Iran firmly rejects any insinuation that it has targeted civilians, including children. It must be emphasized that Iran itself has been a consistent victim of terrorism, often with the involvement or support of external actors. Despite these persistent threats, Iran remains fully committed to the protection of civilians and to upholding the principles of international law, including international humanitarian law.

I would be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as a document for the Security Council.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Amir Saeid Iravani  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

H.E. Mr. Eloy Alfaro de Alba  
President of the Security Council  
United Nations, New York

H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres  
Secretary-General  
United Nations, New York

Cc: H.E. Ms. Virginia Gamba  
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