



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

No. 2969465

14 July 2026

Excellency,

I am writing with reference to the statement issued on 13 July 2026 by your Spokesperson on behalf of the Secretary-General concerning recent developments in the Persian Gulf. Upon instructions from my Government, I wish to express the strong objection of the Islamic Republic of Iran to both the terminology employed and the substance of that statement.

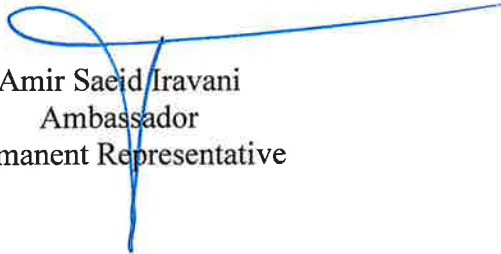
First, Iran categorically rejects the use of the fabricated and inaccurate name in reference to the Persian Gulf. The designation “Persian Gulf” is the only historically, geographically, and legally recognized name for this body of water. It has been used consistently for centuries in authoritative historical, cartographic, and legal sources and is the terminology adopted throughout the United Nations system. The use of the erroneous term in an official statement issued in the name of the Secretary-General is regrettable and unacceptable. The Islamic Republic of Iran requests that the statement be corrected without delay by replacing the inaccurate reference with the internationally recognized name, “Persian Gulf.” It expects that all Secretariat departments, offices, and spokespersons will strictly adhere to their commitment and refrain from repeating such errors in future official communications.

Second, Iran expresses its disappointment with the unbalanced nature of the statement. It regrettably ignores the root causes of the current situation in the region, namely the unlawful acts of aggression and atrocious crimes committed by the United States against the Islamic Republic of Iran, in flagrant violation of Article 2(4) of the Charter of the United Nations and fundamental principles of international law. The current situation cannot accurately or legally be described as a “military confrontation.” Rather, it is the continuation of a blatant and unprovoked act of aggression launched on 28 February 2026 by the United States and the Israeli regime against the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It is neither balanced nor responsible to place the victim of aggression on the same footing as the aggressors or to blame Iran for defending its sovereignty, territorial integrity, and people while failing to hold the United States and the Israeli regime accountable for their grave breaches of the Charter of the United Nations and fundamental principles of international law.



The Islamic Republic of Iran reiterates that the restoration of peace and stability requires addressing the actual source of the crisis by ending the US's ongoing acts of aggression against Iran, ensuring accountability for those responsible, and upholding the principles of the Charter without selectivity or double standards.

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


Amir Saeid Iravani
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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