



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

No. 2976977

20 July 2026

Excellencies,

Upon instructions from my Government, I am writing with reference to the letter dated 7 July 2026 from the representative of the United Arab Emirates addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (A/80/788-S/2026/559). In this regard, I wish to draw your attention and that of members of the Security Council to the following:

1. The Islamic Republic of Iran categorically rejects all baseless allegations levelled by the United Arab Emirates concerning Iran's sovereign measures in the waters of the Persian Gulf, including the Strait of Hormuz. Iran has consistently reaffirmed, and will continue to uphold, its unwavering commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the fundamental principles of international law, including principles of sovereign equality of States, respect for territorial integrity and political independence, the prohibition of the threat or use of force, and the principle of good-neighbourliness. In the meantime, the Islamic Republic of Iran reiterates that defending its sovereignty, territorial integrity, national security, and essential national interests, in accordance with international law, constitutes its inherent, inalienable, and undeniable right.
2. As communicated to the Secretary-General and the Security Council, the United Arab Emirates has acted in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 2 (4), which prohibits the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State. By facilitating the military aggression of the United States against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iran, targeting civilians and civilian objects and vital infrastructure, and by making its territory, military facilities, and other forms of support for the planning, preparation, facilitation, and execution of those unlawful attacks, the United Arab Emirates incurs international responsibility for its internationally wrongful acts. Such conduct further constitutes participation in and assistance to an act of aggression within the meaning of General Assembly resolution 3314 (XXIX), entitled *Definition of Aggression*. In response to those large-scale armed attacks and the manifest violation of its sovereignty and territorial integrity, the Islamic Republic of Iran has exercised its inherent right of self-defence, in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, by taking necessary, proportionate, and lawful defensive and deterrent measures.
3. All measures undertaken by the Islamic Republic of Iran, including security and control measures implemented in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz, constitute necessary, proportionate, and immediate responses to ongoing armed attacks and military threats directed against Iran. Those measures have been adopted for the legitimate purposes of



repelling aggression, protecting the lives and security of the Iranian people, preserving Iran's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and safeguarding the security of its land, maritime, and airspace borders. Iran's defensive measures have been implemented in full conformity with the applicable rules of international law, including the law of the sea and the sovereign rights of Iran as a coastal State of the Strait of Hormuz to adopt and enforce laws and regulations on maritime safety, the protection of the marine environment, maritime traffic management, and the protection of its national security. The objective of Iran's measures is to ensure the safe, secure, and orderly navigation of commercial vessels while protecting Iran against continuing threats arising from acts of aggression and related hostile activities.

4. It should once again be recalled that the long-standing and consistently maintained legal position of the Islamic Republic of Iran is that it does not recognize the treaty-based regime of transit passage through the Strait of Hormuz. The Islamic Republic of Iran is not a party to the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and, consistent with its position as persistent objector, has not accepted the customary status for the regime of transit passage. Accordingly, Iran retains its sovereignty over its territorial waters, together with its legislative and enforcement jurisdiction, and all other sovereign rights recognized under applicable rules of international law. In the exercise of those rights, the Islamic Republic of Iran is entitled to regulate navigation through its territorial waters, including by adopting and enforcing laws and regulations consistent with international law, and to prevent passage that is not innocent including in particular when it is prejudicial to its peace, public order or security, infringes upon its sovereignty or territorial integrity, or otherwise violates its laws and regulations adopted in accordance with international law. In particular, the passage of warships or other government vessels belonging to States engaged in acts of aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran, or of vessels used to plan, facilitate, support, or sustain such acts of aggression, cannot reasonably be regarded innocent passage. Such activities are manifestly incompatible with the nature of innocent passage and constitute a direct and continuing threat to the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and national security of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Consequently, and in accordance with applicable international law, the Islamic Republic of Iran is fully entitled to exercise its legislative and enforcement jurisdiction to supervise and regulate navigation through its territorial sea in the Strait of Hormuz and, where the legal requirements are satisfied, to take the measures necessary to prevent passage that is not innocent or is otherwise contrary to international law.

5. Concerning the allegations on the imposition of the so-called transit fees or tolls, the Islamic Republic of Iran, while rejecting such misleading claims, maintains a responsible approach in conformity with international law.

6. The Islamic Republic of Iran calls on the United Arab Emirates to refrain from any unlawful and destabilizing actions, and to immediately cease any military and logistical cooperation, assistance, or support provided to aggressors against Iran. The Islamic



Republic of Iran continues to exercise its inherent right, in accordance with international law, to take all necessary measures to safeguard its security, sovereignty, and territorial integrity against any acts of aggression or threats thereto. The United Arab Emirates bears international responsibility for its internationally wrongful acts, including its complicity in acts of aggression, and remains under an obligation to make full reparation for all injury, including material and moral damage, caused to the Islamic Republic of Iran, its nationals, and its civilian and public infrastructure as a consequence of those wrongful acts.

7. The Islamic Republic of 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. Moreover, the long-established practice of the United Nations, reflected in its official documentation and cartographic publications over several decades, unequivocally confirms that "Persian Gulf" is the only standard geographical designation applicable to the body of water situated between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Arabian Peninsula. The use of fabricated, politically motivated, or historically inaccurate terminology is contrary to established international practice and lacks any historical, geographical or legal validity. The Islamic Republic of Iran, therefore, expects the United Arab Emirates to rectify the erroneous terminology employed in its communication and to refrain henceforth from the use of any fabricated designation inconsistent with established international usage and United Nations practice.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

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

Amir Saeid Iravani  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

H.E. Mr. Zenon Ngay Mukongo  
President of the Security Council  
United Nations, New York

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