



# **ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
JAURÈSGASSE 3, 1030 VIENNA



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## **Statement**

by

**H.E. Ambassador Kazem Gharib Abadi**  
**Resident Representative to the IAEA**

before

**Board of Governors**

On

**Israeli Nuclear Capabilities**

September 2018

*In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful*

**Mr. Chairperson, Distinguished Colleagues,**

It is promising that all in the Middle East region, except for the Regime of Israel, are parties to the NPT and have undertaken to accept comprehensive Agency safeguards. My delegation welcomes the conclusion of comprehensive safeguards agreements with the Agency by the States in the Middle East, in fulfillment of their obligation under paragraph 1 of Article III of the Treaty, as Non-Nuclear- Weapons States (NNWS).

However, the acquisition of a clandestine nuclear capability by Israel poses a continuing serious threat to the security of its neighboring and other States. And, unfortunately, Israel continues to ignore and even brazenly flout all international regimes governing weapons of mass destruction; thereby, it is the only obstacle lying in the way of establishing a zone free from weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Ignoring the legitimate international concerns by refraining to adhere to the NPT, this regime, with blind support and even the hidden involvement of certain States, continuously advances its unlawful nuclear capabilities, in a flagrant breach of all international norms and regulations.

It is a very critical juncture and the credibility and reliability of the global non-proliferation regime is in danger. On one hand, the failure of the NPT 2015 Review Conference due to the awkward position of a few countries, in support of a non-party to the NPT, is a serious setback and deeply regrettable, which would have dire consequences on the regional and international security.

On the other, a selective approach to the issue of nuclear capabilities in the Middle East undermines the viability of the IAEA Safeguards regime. Such an approach has also resulted in the continued and dangerous presence of unsafeguarded Israeli nuclear facilities and activities.

Therefore, as a first step to address this situation, there must be a total and complete prohibition of the transfer of all nuclear-related equipment, information, material and facilities, resources or devices and the extension of assistance in the nuclear related scientific or technological fields to Israel.

Active participation of all Member States in achieving the universality of comprehensive IAEA safeguards in the Middle East region and reversing the ongoing unacceptable situation is an unavoidable prerequisite in this regard.

**Mr. Chairman,**

As it was indicated yesterday, I would like to reiterate that maintaining the status quo in the Middle East should not be an option anymore; and, protecting the Israeli regime serves no longer the best interest of the Region and the International Community. Therefore, the only way to address this critical state of affairs is to exert a sustained pressure on the Israeli regime to accede to the NPT, promptly and unconditionally, as a non-nuclear weapon party, and to place all of its nuclear activities and installations under the IAEA comprehensive safeguards.

To conclude, **Mr. Chair**, my delegation is of the view that, pending the materialization of this only conceivable solution, it is a legitimate call, that, the issue of Israeli nuclear capabilities, as a real threat to the international peace and security, remains high on the agenda of the IAEA.

**Thank you for your attention,**