

General Conference

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Items 20 and 21 of the agenda
(GC(50)/21)

Application of Safeguards in the Middle East

Israeli Nuclear Capabilities and Threat

1. On 21 September 2006, the President of the General Conference received a letter dated 21 September 2006 from the Head of the Israeli Delegation and Director General of the Israeli Atomic Energy Commission, relating to item 20, “Application of IAEA safeguards in the Middle East” and item 21, “Israeli nuclear capabilities and threat” of the agenda of the Conference.
2. As requested in the letter, it is herewith circulated.



September 21, 2006

H.E. Mr. Abdul Samad Minty
President
50th IAEA General Conference

Dear Mr. President,

As we have informed you a few days ago, the delegation of Israel has to leave the GC at the end of Thursday's discussions due to the beginning of "Rosh Hashanah", the Jewish New Year.

We have made a great effort with the help of many distinguished Member States to reach an agreement that will ensure that no-action is taken on Agenda Item no. 21. However, it was not possible to reach the same agreement as last year's and further suggestions we made were turned down.

The Israeli Ambassador to the IAEA has been instructed that if a resolution under item no. 21 will be brought to a vote, Israel will not be able to support the resolutions under Agenda items no.20. I would like to stress that this is a lamentable and unfortunate outcome that will certainly have a bearing on our considerations in the future.

We would be grateful if you could circulate this letter to all member states.

Sincerely,

Gideon Frank
Head of Delegation