



## Security Council

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### **Letter dated 16 January 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council**

Further to my letters dated 3, 7 and 8 January 2020 on the assassination of Major General Qasem Soleimani in Iraq by the armed forces of the United States, I am writing to you regarding the identical letters dated 9 January 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council ([S/2020/26](#)).

Iran's act on 8 January 2020 was a measured and proportionate response, in exercising its inherent right to self-defence, against an American air base from which the cowardly armed attack against Martyr Soleimani – who was in Baghdad upon the invitation of the Government of Iraq – was launched. The relevant Iraqi authorities were informed, in advance, that our act of self-defence was aimed only at the American air base.

Recalling the strong fraternal relations existing between the peoples and Governments of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Iraq, I would like to reaffirm Iran's strong commitment to peaceful coexistence, friendly relations and good-neighbourliness with the Republic of Iraq and reiterate our commitment to respecting its sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity – as has evidently been the case in assisting Iraq in fighting Daesh, wherein Martyr Soleimani played a leading role.

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

*(Signed)* **Majid Takht Ravanchi**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

