



Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

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In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

No. 1632

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and with reference to the Note no. 1002 dated 15 December 2011, jointly by the Permanent Missions of the State of Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations has the honor to state the following:

The Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its dismay over the approach taken by Kuwait in leveling baseless claims concerning the activities of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its continental shelf in the Persian Gulf and categorically rejects those claims. Hence, any claim of encroachment and attack by Iranian military boats, as mentioned in the above Note, is rejected as totally false.

The Islamic Republic of Iran stresses that all its exploration and exploitation activities in its continental shelf in the Persian Gulf has been conducted in exercise of its sovereign rights and in full conformity with the international law.

In the meantime, the Islamic Republic of Iran has always expressed its readiness to conduct meaningful bilateral negotiations with Kuwaiti authorities in order to reach agreement on their maritime boundaries in the Persian Gulf. The Islamic Republic of Iran is committed to continue this approach which is the manifestation of its good faith and its respect for good neighborly relations. While the Islamic Republic of Iran is still waiting for the Kuwait's reply to its sincere call for bilateral negotiations - as expressed most recently by H.E. Mr. Ali Akbar Salehi, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in his 11 October 2011 visit to Kuwait - the issuance of a Note by Kuwait, co-signed by a third party, and raising of false claims about Iran's activities in its continental shelf and their exaggerated qualification as threat to regional stability does not reciprocate Iran's good faith, and is regarded to be as bizarre and non-constructive.

As stated in our previous communications to Kuwait, including Note Verbale no. 642/1565322, dated 7 January 2012 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of Kuwait in Tehran, bilateral negotiations between Iran and Kuwait conducted in good faith is the only way to reach agreement on demarcating the maritime boundaries between the two countries. The Islamic Republic of Iran regrets that its repeated calls for bilateral negotiations have not been duly responded by Kuwaiti authorities. Nonetheless, the Islamic Republic of Iran renews its sincere invitation to



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Kuwaiti authorities to begin a new round of bilateral negotiations to that effect. It goes without saying that no bilateral agreement may generate obligations for the third party(ies) under international law (*res inter alios acta*) and, therefore, the Islamic Republic of Iran does not recognize any party other than Kuwait as its counterpart to negotiations for delimitation of maritime boundaries between the two countries.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to have this Note circulated and published as a document of the United Nations according to the established practice of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 25 January 2012

Secretary-General
United Nations
New York

