

Statement by Mr. Vinay Kumar, Minister, on
Briefing: 1737 Committee concerning Iran, at the
United Nations Security Council, on 21st December 2011

Thank you, Mr. President.

I would join other colleagues in thanking Ambassador Nester Osorio for presenting the twentieth 90-day report of the 1737 Committee. We commend the professionalism with which the Committee has been implementing its mandate under the stewardship of Ambassador Osorio.

2. I would also like to thank the Panel of Experts for its hard work since the extension of its mandate for one year by Resolution 1984 in June this year. We note the Panel's mid-term report and its recommendations. We are carefully studying the reports and views expressed by member states.

3. We support the continued work of the Panel in accordance with its mandate and preparation of its reports in consultation with member states and by inclusion of inputs provided by them.

4. Mr. President, India has consistently supported the right of all states to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, consistent with their respective obligations. Iran, as a non-nuclear weapon state signatory to the NPT, has all the rights and obligations that go with its membership pertaining to the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. We underline the importance of the full and effective implementation of all obligations undertaken by states. We also underline the need for international focus on clandestine proliferation activities.

5. Mr President, India has consistently underlined the critical importance of continued dialogue between the IAEA and Iran. We support the intensification of dialogue between Iran and the Agency aimed at the urgent resolution of all outstanding substantive issues, including providing clarifications regarding those issues that have been highlighted in the reports of the DG-IAEA. India would also like to reiterate its support for a diplomatic solution. We believe that it is necessary to expand the diplomatic space to address all outstanding issues in restoring international confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme. It is, therefore, essential to keep the door open for dialogue and avoidance of confrontation.

6. Mr President, we support the full implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1737 and 1929 by all states. At the same time, all efforts should be made to ensure that legitimate trade and economic activities do not suffer.

7. In conclusion, Mr. President, we support open briefings by the Committee's Chair and the Coordinator of the Panel to interested member states on implementation procedures and believe that all member states should provide their support, as appropriate, to the discharge of the mandate of the 1737 Committee.

Thank you.

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