

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 11, 2014

The Honorable U. Joy Ogwu
Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the United Nations
President of the United Nations Security Council

Dear Ambassador Ogwu:

As members of the United States Congress committed to the vital efforts necessary to fight terrorism, we write to urge the United Nations Security Council and the Panel of Experts overseeing U.N. sanctions on Iran to hold the Iranian government accountable for violating Security Council Resolutions 1373 and 1747 by attempting to export a large shipment of arms and missiles to terrorist groups in the region.

On March 6, Israeli Naval Special Forces intercepted an armed vessel, the *Klos C*, 930 miles off the Israeli coast. This vessel held an Iranian weapons shipment, including 40 Syrian-made rockets with a range of 100 miles, over 180 rounds of mortar shells, and around 400,000 rounds of rifle ammunition. Israeli officials said that the rockets aboard the ship have a capability exceeding those rockets currently in Gaza and could have harmed millions of Israelis. The interception of this ship prevented the weapons aboard from being smuggled to the militant Islamic groups Hamas or Islamic Jihad to target Israeli civilians.

This incident clearly violates Security Council Resolution 1373, which calls on all states to refrain from harboring, sponsoring, and financing terrorism. Furthermore, it defies Resolution 1747, which specifically applies to Iran, stating that “Iran shall not supply, sell or transfer directly or indirectly from its territory or by its nationals . . . any arms or related materiel . . .”

This incident is not Iran’s first violation of these resolutions. In January 2002, the Israeli Navy intercepted a merchant ship, *Karine A*, en route from Iran to illegally provide arms to Yasser Arafat. In November 2009, the *Francon* was commandeered while transporting a large amount of weaponry to Iran’s terrorist-designated proxy, Hezbollah, in Lebanon. Most recently, in March 2011, an Israeli naval force in the Eastern Mediterranean apprehended a container ship, *Victoria*, delivering weapons and artillery to terrorist organizations in the Gaza Strip from Iran. Iran persists in supplying weapons, financial support, and training to its terrorist proxies and allies in Lebanon and in the Gaza Strip.

These brazen violations are consistent with Iran’s behavior on the world stage: Iran deliberately defies Security Council resolutions concerning its nuclear agenda; Iran has buttressed the Assad regime’s murderous campaign against Syrian citizens; and its leaders have called for the annihilation of Israel, a fellow U.N. member state. In addition, Iran engages in mounting violations of universal human rights, as the people of Iran continue to suffer repression, discrimination, imprisonment, and torture at the hand of the Iranian government. Since President

Rouhani assumed office in August 2013, more than 525 people have been executed at a rate of approximately 2.5 per day.

The Security Council has rightfully shown concern over Iran's strident and ongoing support of global terror. We laud the efforts by the Security Council's Iran Sanctions Committee and Panel of Experts, both created to monitor and investigate violations of U.N. sanctions on Iran, and echo the calls by the U.S. envoy to the U.N. for both panels to prepare serious repercussions for these violations. Now, even as Iran is actively engaged in negotiations with world powers about its nuclear aspirations, the regime disregards the will of the international community and undermines these negotiations by sending shipments of perilous weapons to terror groups. While the Security Council is obviously engaged in other pressing matters on the world stage, we ask that you give this important issue the attention it deserves and hold Iran accountable for behavior violating U.N. Resolutions.

Respectfully,



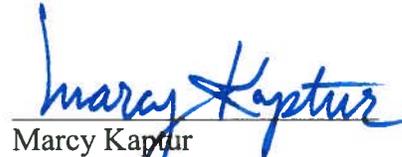
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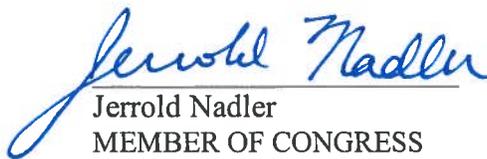
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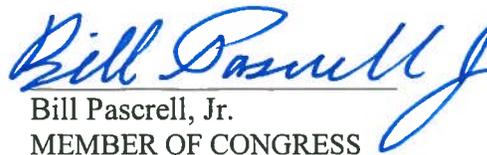
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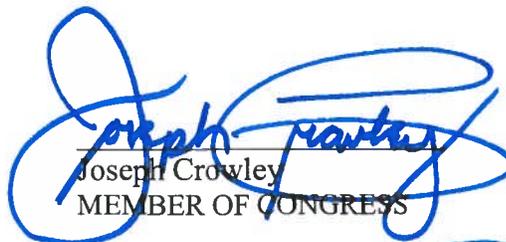
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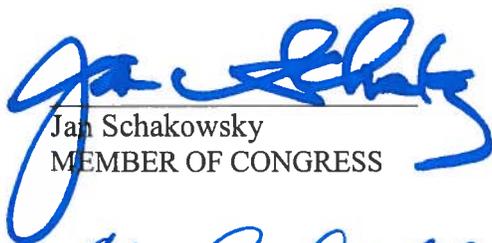
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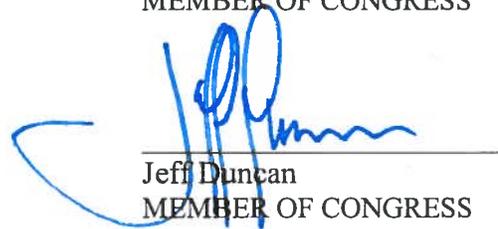
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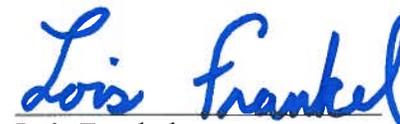
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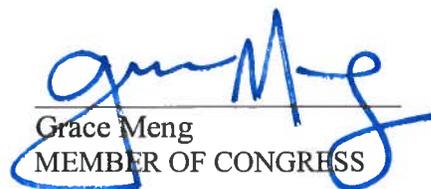
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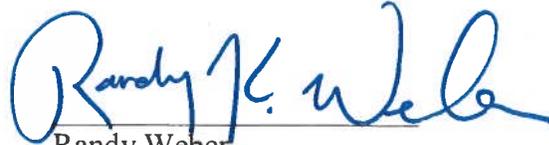
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CC:

The Honorable Salomé Zourabichvili, Coordinator of the Panel of Experts

The Honorable Gary Quinlan, Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations,
Chair of the 1737 Iran Sanctions Committee

The Honorable Samantha Power, Permanent Representative of the United States to the United
Nations

The Honorable Mark Lyall Grant, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the
United Nations

The Honorable Gérard Araud, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations

The Honorable Liu Jieyi, Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the
United Nations

The Honorable Vitaly Churkin, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the
United Nations