



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Meeting on Non-Proliferation (Iran – 1737 Committee)
Wednesday 9 June 2026**

Greece's Statement delivered
by H.E. Ms. Aglaia Balta
Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations

Thank you Mr. President,

I also thank you for convening this meeting and the Secretariat for its continued work on this file.

At the outset, let me reiterate Greece's concern over the escalation that we are witnessing during the past months in the Middle East. In the wake of more strikes against the Gulf countries, the present extended ceasefire, although fragile, must be maintained across the whole region and provide time and space for a comprehensive negotiated solution. Any further escalation carries grave consequences for civilians and poses serious risks to non-proliferation and international peace and security.

We therefore call on all parties to show maximum restraint, refrain from any action that further inflames tensions, and pursue de-escalation, dialogue and diplomacy as a matter of urgency. International law, including international humanitarian law and international law of the sea must be fully respected. Civilians and civilian infrastructure must never be targeted. We strongly condemn attacks against civilian infrastructure, including critical energy facilities in Gulf countries, and stand in solidarity with all affected States that were drawn into a war they did not want.

Freedom of navigation must be safeguarded, including the right of transit passage through international straits as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Passage through the Strait of Hormuz must be unimpeded.

Moreover, Iran's nuclear program remains a major source of concern that needs to be addressed in comprehensive negotiations. Iran must never develop or acquire a nuclear weapon. We remain deeply concerned about the scope of Iran's nuclear program and its lack of transparency. The accumulation of highly enriched uranium, including uranium enriched up to -and possibly more than- 60%, cannot credibly justify civilian use. We call on Iran to immediately re-establish full, effective and constructive cooperation with the IAEA, including by providing the Agency with the access and information necessary to fulfil its verification mandate. Cooperation grounded in verification and transparency remains the only way to restore confidence.

Mr. President,

Turning to the issue before us today, we wish to be equally clear. Let me repeat that the reinstatement of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006) was both valid and legitimate. Following the activation of the snapback mechanism under Resolution 2231, the relevant Security Council resolutions have been reimposed and those measures remain in full force. They reflect binding international law, and all member states are obliged to respect and implement them.

The 1737 Committee, in the absence of a negotiated solution, is therefore an essential mechanism for ensuring Iran's compliance with the UN sanctions and the implementation of the Council's decisions. We regret that its work has been delayed and that the Council has not yet been able to agree on the necessary arrangements for its full functioning. We therefore call for the swift appointment of a Chair and a Panel of Experts. Disputing the facts and the legality of Council decisions erodes the credibility of the Council and does not serve regional stability and non-proliferation.

At the same time, we call on Iran to seize the present opportunity and negotiate meaningfully and constructively, with a view to a comprehensive solution. The objectives that underpinned the JCPOA remain valid. Any future understanding must be based on reliable and impartial information on the status of Iran's nuclear programme and must provide the international community with clear, verifiable and lasting assurances that Iran's nuclear activities are exclusively peaceful. Ultimately, a durable solution to the Iranian nuclear issue can only be reached through de-escalation, dialogue and diplomacy, and in line with international law and the UN Charter.

Greece stands ready to engage constructively with all Council members in support of such a solution, with a view to ensuring respect of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime and the maintenance of international peace and security.

I thank you