



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Meeting on Non-Proliferation (Iran – 1737 Committee)
Thursday 10 September 2026**

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

Thank you, Mr. President.

Allow me also to thank the Secretariat for its work in support of the Council and the 1737 Committee.

Mr. President,

We have consistently stressed that the re-establishment of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 was both valid and legitimate. Following the activation of the snapback mechanism, the relevant Security Council resolutions were restored and the obligations arising from them must be implemented by all Member States. The clear majority of Member States have reaffirmed this fundamental principle, as today's voting results again demonstrate.

For these obligations to be fulfilled effectively, the Committee must be equipped with the necessary tools to discharge its mandate. A functioning Panel of Experts is particularly important in this regard. Greece therefore supports the draft resolution and the proposed extension of the mandate of the Panel of Experts. We consider the restoration of the Panel as an important step towards enabling the 1737 Committee to discharge its mandate effectively and ensuring full implementation of the Council's decisions.

At the same time, implementation of the resolutions and sanctions measures forms only part of a broader effort aimed at achieving a diplomatic resolution of the Iran nuclear issue.

Mr. President,

Greece's position on Iran's nuclear programme is unchanged: Iran must never develop or acquire a nuclear weapon.

The nature and scale of Iran's nuclear activities, together with outstanding questions regarding transparency, remain a matter of serious concern. The continued

accumulation of highly enriched uranium underscores the urgency of restoring confidence in the exclusively peaceful character of the program.

The role of the IAEA is therefore indispensable. Iran must cooperate fully and constructively with the Agency and provide all necessary access and information so that it can fulfil its verification responsibilities effectively and independently. Only sustained transparency and credible verification can provide the assurances required by the international community.

Mr. President,

We remain deeply concerned by the ongoing escalation in the region. There is an urgent need for a return to dialogue and the resumption of negotiations. Diplomacy remains the only viable path towards lasting peace and stability.

Equally, respect for international law, including international humanitarian law, must remain at the center of our collective efforts. The protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure is of critical importance. They must be protected at all times and must never become targets.

At the same time, the stability of global and regional supply chains, particularly in essential commodities, such as food products and fertilizers, depend on the preservation of freedom of navigation and the unhindered movement of international shipping. In this respect, we need to see an immediate return to the status quo ante. The right of transit passage through international straits, such as the Strait of Hormuz, as reflected in the UNCLOS, must be fully respected. International shipping must remain free from impediments, threats or measures inconsistent with international law.

The same principle applies to other critical maritime routes, including the Red Sea and the Bab al-Mandab Strait. The security of these maritime arteries is an essential element for international peace and security.

There is ultimately no sustainable alternative to diplomacy and a return to negotiations. A comprehensive agreement, supported by effective verification and consistent with international law and the Charter of the United Nations, remains the best path towards addressing proliferation concerns and restoring regional stability.

We encourage Iran to engage seriously and constructively in negotiations capable of producing a lasting settlement, as well as providing clear, durable and verifiable assurances regarding the peaceful nature of its nuclear activities.

Greece will continue to work constructively with all members of the Council to advance these objectives.

I thank you.