



Mission permanente d'Israël  
auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies  
et des Organisations Internationales à Genève

משלחת ישראל  
ליד משרד האומות המאוחדות  
והארגונים הבינלאומיים בג'נבה

**URGENT**

H.E. Ambassador Luis Alfonso De Alba  
President, Human Rights Council  
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Palais des Nations  
1211 Geneva 10

Geneva, 12 December 2006

Mr. President,

I would like to draw your attention to a conference that is currently underway in Tehran, Iran that is dedicated to denial of the Holocaust and means to implement the sick phenomenon of revisionist history. Entitled the "International Conference Review of the Holocaust," it is taking place December 11-12, 2006, and provides a forum for Holocaust deniers and skeptics seeking to spread their dangerous ideology.

This disgraceful pandering to extremist views was initiated and is supported by Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, and is a blatant extension of his on-going public campaign calling for the destruction of the State of Israel.

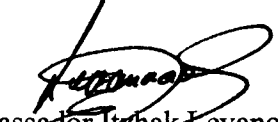
Secretary-General Annan has already publicly expressed his condemnation of this conference earlier this month, when he stated his belief that "any attempt to cast doubt on the reality of this unique and undeniable horror must be firmly resisted by all people of goodwill and of whatever faith."

Mr. President, these statements and actions of the Iranian president are clearly counter-factual and stand in stark contradiction to history, as endorsed unanimously by the international community. But in denying or questioning the Holocaust—the most extreme form of genocide to date—the Iranian President is challenging the very essence of the notion of universal human rights, developed by the international community at the founding of the United Nations in response to the horrors of the Holocaust.

President Ahmadinejad's continued calls for the destruction of Israel, a member state of the UN, should be seen as threatening genocide. Such positions explicitly contravene the Genocide Convention, endanger civilization and demand universal rejection. Furthermore, they stand in stark contrast to General Assembly Resolution A/60/L.12, passed just one year ago, which "rejects any denial of the Holocaust as an historical event, either in full or in part."

As the President of the Human Rights Council, I respectfully request that you ask the Secretariat to circulate this letter to the attention of all Permanent Missions in Geneva, UN departments and bodies, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.



Ambassador Itzhak Levanon  
Permanent Representative