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Sixtieth year**The situation in the Middle East****Measures to eliminate international terrorism****Identical letters dated 15 April 2005 from the Permanent
Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council**

I am writing to draw your attention to the most recent terrorist attack perpetrated against the citizens of Israel.

Today, a terrorist gunman infiltrated the Israeli-Syrian border, north-east of Kazerin. Dressed in a shirt emblazoned with the Palestinian flag, he infiltrated an Israel Defense Forces outpost near the border and opened fire, aiming at the outpost's gasoline tanks with the apparent intent of causing them to explode. The terrorist was arrested and, during his questioning, stated that his intention was to kidnap an Israeli citizen, and take him back to Syria. The responsibility for the incident lies with Syria, and it is legally and morally obligated to prevent similar incidents in the future.

At this promising but sensitive time, it is incumbent on all those serious about peace in our region to reject the forces who seek to destroy any hopes for it, and to act to eliminate terrorist organizations. Until this happens, Palestinian terrorist groups represent a ticking time bomb for the peace process, posing a direct threat not only to the innocent Israelis that they target but also to the rekindled hopes of both peoples.

Despite ongoing terrorist activity, Israel continues to exercise restraint and hopes that the new Palestinian leadership, as well as all States in the region, will finally meet their obligations and adopt a policy of zero tolerance for terrorism. Israel is engaging in a serious effort to renew the peace process, and has proved ready to live up to its own obligations, but it will not and it cannot tolerate an absence of genuine and uncompromising efforts to fully eradicate terrorist activity against its citizens.

Israel calls upon the international community to reaffirm its absolute rejection of terrorist tactics, and to accept nothing less than the complete dismantling of terrorist organizations, as well as unyielding efforts by all States in the region to

prevent terrorism and bring its perpetrators and supporters to justice, in accordance with international law and Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 1373 (2001), as well as the road map.

I submit this letter in follow-up to numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism launched in September 2000, which document the crimes for which the terrorists and their supporters must be held fully accountable.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 36 and 148, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dan **Gillerman**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
