

**SPECIAL COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE GROUP OF FRIENDS IN DEFENSE OF
THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE
PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

1. The Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations is deeply saddened by the tragic loss of H.E. Mr. Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, late President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E. Mr. Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and their companions in a terrible helicopter crash incident that occurred on 19 May 2024, in the northern region of the East Azarbaijan Province of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
2. The Member States of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations express their heartfelt condolences to the People and Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran – a fellow member of our grouping – on the terrible loss of true servants of their beloved homeland, and elevate a prayer for the families and loved ones of the martyrs to find spiritual strength and peace at this time of grief.
3. The Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations make vows for the legacy of late President Raisi and late Foreign Minister Amir-Abdollahian, who played a key role over the recent years, among others, in the history of the politics and foreign relations of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to perdure in time and serve as an inspiration to both present and future Iranian generations in their path towards prosperity and development, despite the negative impact of years of a cruel and illegal policy of unilateral coercive measures.
4. The collective thoughts and prayers of the Member States of the Group of Friends in Defense of the Charter of the United Nations are with the People and Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while remaining in full solidarity with them in these moments of sorrow and grief and reassuring them of their full support as they will be soon initiating a process for electing a new President.

New York, 22 May 2024