



Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

MAYNILA, PILIPINAS

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR SUPERVISION AND EXAMINATION SECTOR

CIRCULAR LETTER NO.: CL-2009-008

To : ALL COMMERCIAL BANKS

Subject : Aide Memoire from the Australian Embassy: Additional Sanctions on Iran

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas received from the Department of Finance a copy of the endorsement of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) of the Note Verbale No. 377/08 dated 23 October 2008 from the Australian Embassy, transmitting a copy of the Aide Memoire containing the announcement made by Hon. Stephen Smith, the Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs regarding additional sanctions to Iran's failure to comply with the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions concerning its Uranium enrichment and reprocessing activities.

In the said announcement, Minister Smith expressed support to the UNSC resolutions and in response to Iran's continued defiance of the UN resolutions, Australia imposed new financial and travel sanctions against 20 Iranian individuals and 18 organizations which contribute to Iran's nuclear and missile programs. Two of these organizations include the Iranian banks Melli and Saderat.

Banks are advised to closely monitor any financial transactions with the two Iranian banks Melli and Saderat. Any known information regarding said banks such as amount, date, counterparty and nature of transaction may be reported to the Central Point of Contact Department I, Supervision and Examination Sector of the BSP.

Attached for your guidance is the DFA endorsement of the Note Verbale No. 377/08 dated 23 October 2008 from the Australian Embassy, containing the announcement made by the Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs.


NESTOR A. ESPENILLA JR.
Deputy Governor

3 February 2009

Att.: A/S

PANANALAPING MATATAG, BANSANG PANATAG

Agawaran ng Ugnayang Panlabas



Department of Foreign Affairs

28505

OFFICE OF UNITED NATIONS AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

28 October 2008

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of Note Verbale No. 377/07 dated 23 October 2008 from the Australian Embassy transmitting a copy of the Aide Memoire containing the announcement made by Hon. Stephen Smith, Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs, on additional sanction on Iran in response to the latter's failure to comply with the United Nations Security Council resolutions concerning its enrichment and reprocessing activities.

Minister Smith announced that it strongly supports the UNSC resolutions and in response to on-going Iranian defiance of the Security Council, Australia decided to impose new financial and travel sanctions against 20 Iranian individuals and 18 organizations which contribute to Iran's nuclear and missile programs. These organizations include Iranian banks *Melli* and *Saderat*.

The Australian Government will implement vigorously the Security Council's call through UNSCR 1803 to be vigilant about providing financial support for trade with Iran, so as to avoid contributing to Iran's proliferation-sensitive activities.

In keeping up with the Philippine position on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, the Department of Finance is requested to monitor vigilantly any financial transactions between RP local banks and the two aforementioned banks in Iran.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of Foreign Affairs:

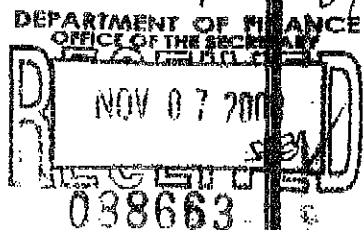
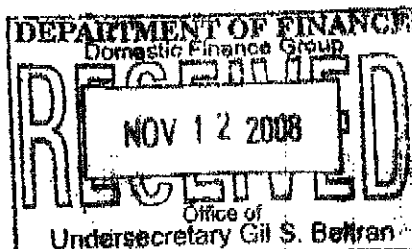
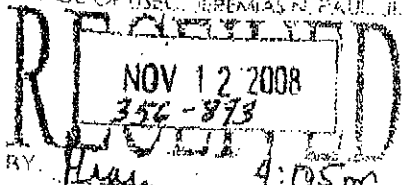

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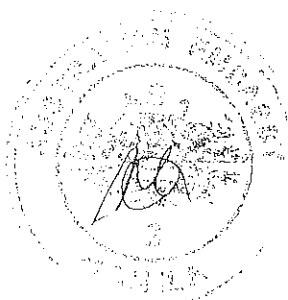


Note No. 377/08

The Australian Embassy in Manila presents its compliments to the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines and has the honour to inform of the announcement by Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs the Hon Stephen Smith MP, on 15 October 2008, of the introduction of additional sanctions on Iran in response to its failure to comply with United Nations Security Council resolutions concerning its uranium enrichment and reprocessing activities.

Information on these additional sanctions is contained in the enclosed Aide Memoire.

The Australian Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department of Foreign Affairs the assurances of its highest consideration.



MANILA

23 October 2008

Australian Sanctions on Iran

The Australian Government is deeply concerned at Iran's refusal to suspend its uranium enrichment and reprocessing-related activities as required by multiple United Nations Security Council Resolutions.

Iran's secret nuclear program was revealed in 2002. Since then, Australia has urged Iran to cooperate fully with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and to take the steps necessary to reassure the entire international community about the nature of its nuclear activities.

The international community has responded through the adoption of four UNSC resolutions which require Iran to suspend uranium enrichment and reprocessing activities, and to meet the IAEA's verification requirements.

Three UNSC resolutions have imposed sanctions, including travel and financial restrictions against those engaged in Iran's proliferation sensitive activities.

Australia supports each of these binding resolutions, and has implemented these sanctions fully.

While the international community believes it is necessary to bring pressure to bear on Iran, it has also reached out. In particular, the European Union foreign policy chief Solana on behalf of the United States, Russia, France, the United Kingdom, China and Germany has offered a generous incentives package in exchange for Iran's suspension of its enrichment activities.

Australia has strongly supported this initiative and has urged Iran to accept it. Unfortunately, Iran has refused to take up this offer and to provide the necessary reassurances. To supplement these UN sanctions, the EU decided recently to impose additional autonomous travel and financial sanctions.

On 15 September, the IAEA again confirmed that Iran persisted with uranium enrichment and reprocessing-related activities and had refused to give it access to all relevant facilities.

The IAEA also reported it had detailed information suggesting Iran has conducted studies into nuclear weapons and that Iranian military entities have been involved in nuclear procurement.

This information further deepened our concerns about Iran's nuclear intentions. In response to on-going Iranian defiance of the Security Council and given the Government's strong commitment to nuclear non-proliferation, the Australian Government has now decided to impose new financial and travel sanctions effective from today.

The sanctions are targeted against 20 Iranian individuals and 18 organisations which contribute to Iran's nuclear and missile programs, or otherwise assist Iran to violate its Security Council obligations. These organisations include Iranian banks Melli and Saderat.

The new measures support and are similar to the action recently taken by the European Union.

The new measures are not intended to prevent legitimate Australian trade with Iran.

However, the Australian Government will implement vigorously the Security Council's call through UNSCR 1803 to be vigilant about providing financial support for trade with Iran, so as to avoid contributing to Iran's proliferation-sensitive activities.

To this end, Australia will not provide new financial support for trade with Iran under Australia's trade promotion and trade finance programs, namely through the Export Finance Insurance Corporation and Export Market Development Grants.

Australia will, together with the international community, continue to engage with Iran to urge it to suspend uranium enrichment.