

European Community

News Release

THE IRAQ-IRAN CONFLICT

Statement of January 26, 1987,
of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs
of the Twelve Member States of the European Community

The twelve States of the European Community are gravely concerned at the evolution of the conflict between Iraq and Iran. They support the UN Security Council resolutions which deplore the initial acts which gave rise to the conflict, as well as its continuation.

The recent dramatic escalation of this long and deplorable conflict

- serves only to increase further the loss of human life and the suffering of combatants and civilians as well as the damage to the economic infrastructure of both countries,
- has brought fresh allegations of serious breaches of international humanitarian standards as well as laws governing armed conflict,
- has been marked by an intensification of attacks on cities,
- increases the risk of the conflict spreading to neighbouring countries and seriously threatens international and regional peace and security.

In this critical situation the Twelve hereby solemnly renew their appeal to the parties to cease hostilities immediately and to comply with Security Council resolutions 582 and 588. They recall their declaration of 8th April 1986, in which they condemned without qualification the use of chemical weapons and asked for strict compliance with the provisions of the 1925 Geneva protocol.

They continue to support fully the mediation efforts of the Secretary-General and have noted with interest his intention to go to Kuwait on the occasion of the summit meeting of the Islamic Conference Organization, which is being held at a particularly critical moment.

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Press and Information Service

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