

Araghchi: Tehran ready for dialogue based on credible guarantees

International Desk

Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on Saturday that Iran will not accept coercion, threats or intimidation and will not surrender its sovereign rights under pressure but he said Tehran remained ready for dialogue based on mutual respect and credible guarantees. Speaking at the 52nd session of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation's Council of Foreign Ministers in Baghdad, Araghchi said the peoples of the region shared both a common region and a common future, and faced a straightforward choice: "We either build security together or endure insecurity together."

Iran had remained steadfast in its commitment to international law, the United Nations Charter and diplomacy, Araghchi said, adding that Tehran had continued to pursue diplomatic efforts over the past two years to resolve differences with the United States. However, he said the US has chosen the opposite path, resorting to aggression, threats, assassinations and economic warfare in blatant disregard for

international law and the UN Charter. Araghchi accused the US and Israel of gross violations of international law by killing around 5,000 people, including Iran's Leader and senior political and military officials during their military aggression against Iran, which began on February 28.

"The deaths of more than 160 students and teachers in Minab, a cluster-bomb attack on a sports stadium in Lamerd, the bombing of a desalination plant on Qeshm Island and an attack on a wedding ceremony in Kouhestak, in Sirik, were among documented examples of US-Israeli war crimes against Iran". Washington and Israel could not cover up these crimes by distorting the truth and turning victims into aggressors, Araghchi said.

Calls for OIC reaction

He called on all OIC members to take a firm stand against attacks on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of one of the organization's founding members. The Iranian foreign minister underlined that Iran would defend its people, sovereignty and legitimate interests



Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi (c) looks on during the family photo during the 52nd session of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Council of Foreign Ministers in Baghdad, Iraq, on October 17, 2026.

● AFP

but there is no contradiction between defending its rights and pursuing peace. Tehran understands the damage caused by war and values peace precisely for that reason, he added.

Araghchi also reaffirmed Iran's commitment to safe and secure navigation through the Strait of Hormuz, a waterway vital to energy supplies and trade for many OIC member states. The strait had remained fully open and secure until February 28, 2026, he said.

The Iranian foreign minister underlined that insecurity and disruption to maritime traffic has been a direct result of acts of aggression by the United States and Israel.

Security could not be restored by repeating past mistakes and crimes, Araghchi said. A country could not be



bombed, threatened with annihilation and placed under blockade, then be expected to see maritime security return to normal, he added.

The closed waterway after the US and Israel launched their joint aggression against Iran in February.

The strait remains closed, and Iran has made clear that it will not allow its

reopening until the US fulfills its commitments under the Islamabad understanding which signed between the two countries to end the war.

The Islamabad agreement was aimed at ending the war, but Washington soon violated the agreement by failing to respect Iran's arrangements concerning the Strait of Hormuz.

Super tanker explodes after hitting sea mine in Hormuz: IRGC

International Desk

A super tanker carrying over 2 million barrels of crude oil was engulfed in flames after striking a sea mine in the Strait of Hormuz while attempting to transit through an unauthorized route with its tracking systems switched off.

A massive explosion and fierce fire engulfed a super tanker carrying more than 2 million barrels of crude oil after the vessel struck a sea mine in the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy announced. According to the IRGC Navy, the tanker was attempting to transit through an unauthorized route in the Strait of Hormuz when it struck the mine, triggering a catastrophic explosion and intense blaze, Press TV reported.

In its statement, the IRGC Navy revealed that the tanker had deliberately switched off all of its positioning and radar systems in an attempt to deceive Iranian maritime authorities.

The vessel was attempting to cross the strait with the support and protection of the United States. The statement underscored that the tanker's decision to disable its tracking equipment and rely on US military escort rather than coordinating with Iranian authorities was the direct cause of the disaster.

The IRGC Navy issued a warning to all maritime traffic, declaring that the Strait of Hormuz remains closed in accordance with Iran's sovereign decisions and maritime regulations.

"The Strait of Hormuz is closed, and the



consequence of defying Iranian regulations in the Strait of Hormuz is burning in the fire of trust in the terrorist US army," the IRGC Navy stated, in a rebuke to vessels attempting to rely on US military protection rather than adhering to Iranian maritime protocols.

The incident comes against the backdrop of the ongoing US-Israeli war of aggression against Iran, which began on February 28.

Following the US military's violation of the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in July, the Iranian Armed Forces launched devastating retaliatory strikes against strategic American positions across West Asia and declared the Strait of Hormuz closed to unauthorized traffic.

The IRGC has repeatedly warned that all vessels must coordinate with Iranian authorities before transiting the strait and that unauthorized passage, particularly under US military escort, will be treated as a hostile act with severe consequences. Tehran has said it will not reopen the waterway until the United States meets its demands and takes steps to restore Iran's trust.

Iran denies accusation of encouraging Yemenis to attack Saudi Arabia

International Desk

Iran on Friday denied everything to do with attacks by Yemen's Ansarullah movement, a day after Saudi Arabia accused it of having encouraged the group's recent escalation against the kingdom.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran rejects any claim that Iran has played a role in Yemeni operations," Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei said in a statement.

"Yemen's armed forces act according to their own interests and assessments, and such claims are not credible to those familiar with relations between Iran and its friends. Nevertheless, Iran does not consider an escalation of tensions to be in the interests of any party," he added.

Baqaei however reiterated an offer to mediate between the two sides, saying Tehran "has always been ready to use its good offices to help end the hostilities".

The Iranian official stressed that resolving the Yemen issue requires respect for the

country's national sovereignty and territorial integrity, an end to all interference in its internal affairs and, most importantly, the lifting of the air and sea blockade.

His remarks came after Saudi Foreign Ministry's official Rayed Krimly claimed that Iran had "encouraged" the escalation in Yemen.

He also accused Tehran of continuing to "arm, train and support" the movement.

Saudi Arabia has supported Yemen's government in south militarily against Ansarullah since 2015 in a long-running civil war that has created a humanitarian crisis.

The Ansarullah movement has repeatedly struck Saudi targets including Red Sea tankers, oil facilities and Riyadh's international airport, where 13 people were killed in a single attack last week.

The Ansarullah's attacks have proliferated since the group launched a lightning offensive in Yemen in September, seizing strategic territory along the Red Sea coast overlooking a major chokepoint for global



shipping, which was in control of Saudi-backed forces.

The pressure on Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, comes as global energy markets were already rattled by Iran's closure of the Strait of Hormuz at the outset of the wider Middle East war in February.

Yemeni Saudi-backed forces have launched a counteroffensive with Saudi air support to retake areas seized by Ansarullah, but have so far failed to reverse their gains.

On Friday, the local security office in Aden, the government's interim capital, said two missiles landed within the perimeter of the city's airport, "in the second incident of its kind in less than a week", adding that no one was killed.

Deputy FM rejects claims of meddling in Lebanon's internal affairs

International Desk

Iran rejected accusations of interference in Lebanon's internal affairs, saying a distinction must be drawn between domestic Lebanese issues and resistance to Israeli occupation and aggression.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Saeed Khatibzadeh in an exclusive interview with Lebanon's Al Jadeed television said allegations alone, without evidence to back them up, were insufficient

to establish claims of interference. He called on those accusing Iran of meddling in other countries' internal affairs to present their documents and evidence.

"When we talk about Lebanon's internal affairs, we must distinguish between issues within Lebanon and the question of fighting and resisting occupation and aggression," the deputy foreign minister said.

The Palestinian issue, which he described as fundamental to all, as well as Israel's

expansionist policies in the region and its continued acts of aggression, were separate matters that should be discussed and examined independently, he said.

Khatibzadeh also pointed to interventions by some countries in Lebanon's internal affairs, saying Tehran had sought to prevent the Arab country from becoming an arena for outside interference.

Khatibzadeh also said Iran and Lebanon are exchanging proposals aimed at resolving

diplomatic differences between the two countries. He described Iranian-Lebanese cultural, economic and political ties as deep-rooted and important, adding that Tehran is working to strengthen them further.

The two countries maintain high-level diplomatic relations across various levels, he said, noting that multiple channels of communication remained open between their governments and that diplomatic visits were also part of their bilateral engagement.



The screen grab shows Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Saeed Khatibzadeh during an interview with Lebanon's Al Jadeed television, which was aired on October 16, 2026.