BRYAN STEIL 1ST DISTRICT, WISCONSIN COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

October 21, 2021

The Honorable Janet Yellen Secretary U.S. Treasury Department 1500 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, D.C. 20220 The Honorable Antony Blinken Secretary U.S. Department of State 2201 C St NW Washington, D.C. 20520

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Dear Secretary Yellen and Secretary Blinken:

On October 8, 2021, the Treasury Department announced it removed six entries from the U.S. Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons (SDN) list all related to Mammut Industrial Group/Mammut Industries or Mammut Diesel. The former was alleged to be tied to the Shahid Hemmat Industrial Group (SHIG), which is the entity in Iran responsible for Iran's liquid-propellant ballistic missiles, and is a subordinate to Aerospace Industries Organization (AIO), which is a subsidiary of Iran's Ministry of Defense (MODAFL).

These collective "Mammut" named entities were sanctioned by the Trump administration⁵ and subject to secondary sanctions penalties, pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 13382, a powerful counterproliferation authority the United States retains through an executive order from 2005.⁶ In September 2020, the Treasury Department declared that "Mammut Industries and Mammut Diesel are key producers and suppliers of military-grade, dual use-goods for Iran's missile programs. Since early 2000, Mammut Industries has supported the production of ballistic missile equipment for Iran's AIO and specifically, SHIG, Iran's primary developer of liquid propelled missiles. As of late-2019, Mammut Industries continued to support SHIG's production of ballistic missile equipment."

According to open-source assessments, AIO is the chief production entity for Iran's ballistic missiles. More than a decade of assessments to Congress by several Directors of National Intelligence working under Republican and Democratic presidents have declared that Iran has the largest ballistic missile arsenal in the Middle East⁷. It is because of the work of entities like SHIG, AIO, and MODAFL that this was and remains the case. SHIG, AIO, and MODAFL remain subject to secondary sanctions under E.O. 13382. However, reportedly as of October 8, 2021, Mammut Industrial Group/Mammut Industries or Mammut Diesel will be taken off the sanctions list pursuant to a legal filing. This follows earlier delistings from July of this year of three managers of Mammut Industries.

We are committed to investigating all sanctions relief provided to Iran and its allies and working to thwart the regime's long-range strike capabilities. We would like you verify that the delisted entities are no longer engaged in sanctionable conduct under U.S. law, we also ask what other steps the U.S. government is taking to impede Iran's ballistic missile capabilities, which pose a grave risk to U.S. forces, facilities and personnel in the Middle East, as well as key regional allies like Israel.¹⁰

¹ https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20211008

² https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sml130

³ https://www.iranwatch.org/iranian-entities/shahid-hemat-industrial-group-shig

⁴ https://www.iranwatch.org/iranian-entities/ministry-defense-armed-forces-logistics-modafl and https://www.iranwatch.org/iranian-entities/aerospace-industries-organization-aio

⁵ https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm1130

⁶ See: https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/126/wmd.pdf

⁸ https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2021/10/intel-us-lifts-iran-related-sanctions-says-no-connection-nuclear-deal

https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/us-drops-sanctions-three-iranians-move-unrelated-nuclear-talks-2021-07-02/

¹⁰ https://www.fdd.org/analysis/2021/04/27/biden-congress-should-defend-missile-sanctions-imposed-on-iran/

Finally, we request that you provide this information within 15 days of receipt of this request. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

By Stut

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Member of Congress

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