



## Security Council

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### **Letter dated 12 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

Upon instructions from my Government, I write to respond to the inaccurate remarks made by the Federal Republic of Germany's Permanent Representative to the United Nations during the Security Council videoconference briefing on Yemen on 11 November 2020, in which it was stated that the United Arab Emirates is not contributing to the humanitarian relief effort in Yemen. Between the start of the conflict in 2015 and today, the United Arab Emirates has disbursed over \$6 billion of aid for Yemen, including via the largest-ever single block humanitarian contribution in United Nations history. United Arab Emirates aid for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) relief in Yemen alone amounts to over \$50 million and represents the largest share of a single country in our global effort. The United Arab Emirates continues to reaffirm its humanitarian commitment to the people of Yemen, regardless of the prevailing authority where they live, and accordingly views the United Nations as an irreplaceable vehicle for assistance to them. We remain in constant dialogue with the United Nations and the Government in Yemen on the situation on the ground and how we can be helpful.

We are encouraged by the announcement of the biometric pilot in Sana'a, but urge the Security Council to intensify its efforts to end Houthi aid theft and diversion. As clarified by United Nations executives in the briefing, these simple reforms and gestures could be achieved within hours or days. The Houthis have instead reneged on five of seven agreements to end pillaging of aid.

Moreover, the Security Council has agreed repeatedly on the parameters and timeline for peace and political progress in Yemen. To date, the Houthis have deliberately ignored or sabotaged each milestone. The Security Council is well aware that the continuation of conflict is the greatest factor in the humanitarian situation and will determine the impact of international relief efforts. It is essential that the Security Council exert maximum pressure – especially in the face of this new wave of food insecurity – to end Houthi non-compliance with Security Council resolutions.

The global focus must be equally on humanitarian relief in Yemen and ensuring that the Houthis live up to the conditions that will allow the United Nations and other agencies to serve the Yemeni people and support their recovery. The United Arab Emirates is committed to both objectives. We especially appreciate the European Union and Swedish effort – including today's meeting – to build consensus among Member States, donors and other actors around the priorities moving forward.



I would be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* Lana **Nusseibeh**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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