

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 3 December 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Pursuant to Security Council resolution [2442 \(2018\)](#), I have the honour to present a summary of measures taken by Iran with respect to piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia:

- The Islamic Republic of Iran has been dispatching Navy fleets to the Gulf of Aden to combat maritime piracy. Until now, 65 Iranian Navy fleets, including several in the past year, have been dispatched to the region.
- Iranian Navy fleets routinely escort ships and provide their safe passage through the Gulf of Aden. More than 4,400 ships (bearing flags of different countries) have so far been escorted.
- Necessary protection against the attacks of pirates to the fishermen and seafarers has been provided.
- Iranian forces have regularly fought or repelled attacks by pirates in recent years. Such actions have taken place 234 times.
- Efforts have been made towards the early release of Iranian seafarers captured by Somali pirates.
- Iranian forces have captured pirates over the course of previous years. Some of those captured pirates are still in Iranian prisons.
- Progress has been made in Iran in terms of the criminalization and prosecution of maritime piracy.

It shall be reiterated that Iran's policy in countering maritime piracy and armed robbery at sea is based on cooperation with other countries, especially the coastal States of the region in accordance with the respective rights and duties of coastal States enshrined in international law of the sea.

It shall be further explained that Iran's measures in combating maritime piracy include the mouth of the Red Sea as well.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has spared no effort in combating maritime piracy and will continue to contribute to upholding security at sea, including through the dispatching of further Navy fleets, escorting of ships and providing their safe passage.



It would be appreciated if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Majid **Takht Ravanchi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
