



## Security Council

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### **Letter dated 1 June 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

On instructions from my Government, I write to you in response to the letter dated 13 May 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Libya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2020/394](#)), and to the statement made by the Permanent Representative of Libya before the Security Council via video link on 19 May 2020 at the Council's meeting on the situation in Libya.

The United Arab Emirates rejects the false accusations and factual errors made by the Permanent Representative of Libya in both his 13 May 2020 letter and his 19 May 2020 statement before the Security Council. The clear and consistent positions taken by the United Arab Emirates towards the conflict in Libya are in themselves refutation enough of these regrettable and unfounded allegations. We have repeatedly made those positions known to the United Nations and the international community, including through our two letters dated 18 September 2019 ([S/2019/745](#)) and 27 February 2020 ([S/2020/156](#)) addressed to the President of the Security Council.

In that regard, I should like to reiterate that the United Arab Emirates has always supported security and stability in Libya, the sovereignty of the Libyan State and the legitimate aspirations of the Libyan people for stability, peace and prosperity. Since the onset of the conflict in Libya, my country has called for a peaceful political solution, and it continues to support a comprehensive and lasting political solution to the Libyan crisis. To that end, the United Arab Emirates again calls for an immediate and comprehensive ceasefire, and calls on all parties to adhere to the United Nations-sponsored political process and build on the outcomes of the Berlin Conference. The United Arab Emirates also stresses the need to contain the activities of extremist and terrorist groups in order to ensure a lasting peace in Libya and the region.

The United Arab Emirates is therefore dismayed by the negative and erroneous statements made by the Permanent Representative of Libya in his 13 May 2020 letter regarding the joint declaration adopted on 11 May 2020 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece and the United Arab Emirates. Contrary to the assertions made by the Permanent Representative of Libya, the sole motivation for the joint declaration's condemnation of the ongoing illegal activities of Turkey in the Eastern Mediterranean and rejection of the memorandums signed between Turkey and the President of the Government of National Accord concerning purported maritime zones and security and military cooperation in contravention of international law and the relevant Security Council resolutions concerning Libya was



the legitimate concern of the parties to the declaration about the threat posed by those developments to peace and stability in the region, both within Libya and beyond.

My Government is troubled by the fact that instead of responding to repeated calls for a cessation of hostilities – including from the United Arab Emirates, the other parties to the joint declaration and the Secretary-General – the Permanent Representative of Libya indicated in his 19 May 2020 statement that the Government of National Accord has no intention of desisting from its military activities or rejoining the peace process, despite the added urgency of a ceasefire in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic. That makes the statement by the Permanent Representative of Libya dangerous and irresponsible.

The United Arab Emirates also regrets the attempt by the Permanent Representative of Libya to divert attention from the dangerous deployment of military forces in Libya by Turkey, which Turkey itself has confirmed, in flagrant violation of international law and Security Council resolutions concerning Libya. My country is deeply concerned that Turkish military intervention in Libya will exacerbate the humanitarian crisis in Libya and neighbouring countries, diminish the chances of a peaceful political solution to the conflict and further destabilize the region. In that regard, we recall the commitment agreed to at the Berlin Conference to refrain from any foreign military intervention in Libya.

By the same token, the United Arab Emirates categorically rejects incorrect and unfounded charges of non-compliance with Security Council sanctions measures with respect to Libya. It reaffirms its commitment to comply with all Security Council resolutions concerning Libya, its support for the mandate of the Panel of Experts on Libya and its commitment to continue cooperating with the Panel. In that regard, my Government regrets the attempt to evade the Panel's investigation procedures made by the Permanent Representative of Libya in his 19 May 2020 statement, which will have an adverse impact on the Panel's reports.

Lastly, notwithstanding the false and regrettable statements of the Permanent Representative of Libya, my country affirms its resolve to continue its support for a peaceful political solution in Libya in line with the outcomes of the Berlin Conference. The United Arab Emirates believes that a political solution is the only way forward to achieve lasting security and stability in Libya. Accordingly, the United Arab Emirates reiterates its call for all parties to adhere fully to the ceasefire and commit earnestly to the United Nations-sponsored political process.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

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