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Letter dated 9 October 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives of South Africa and Timor-Leste to the United Nations addressed two biased communications to the Security Council on 7 and 8 October 2020, transmitting two letters with completely misleading content that allegedly emanated, respectively, from a so-called "president" of the imaginary "Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic" and a so-called "representative to the United Nations" of a separatist armed group.

I. Letter from the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of South Africa

The Security Council is once again being used as a political tool for propaganda purposes by a pseudo entity, the so-called "Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic", which does not exist for the international community and is not recognized by the United Nations. No resolution or decision of the Security Council, the General Assembly or other United Nations bodies refers to this fictitious entity.

The Kingdom of Morocco deeply regrets that South Africa, a respected member of the Security Council, has become a tool for falsifying reality and usurping an imaginary function. By circulating the letter, South Africa has, regrettably, contributed to misleading other members of the Council.

Furthermore, the reference to the Moroccan town of Bir Lahlou, located to the east of the defence structure, is an affront to the Security Council, a challenge to its authority and a blatant violation of its resolutions, in particular resolutions 2414 (2018), 2440 (2018), 2468 (2019) and 2494 (2019). In para. 8 of its resolution 2414 (2018), the Security Council stated that it expressed concern regarding the polisario's announcement of the planned relocation of administrative functions to Bir Lahlou and called for it to refrain from any such destabilizing actions.

II. Letter from the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Timor-Leste

Once again, a member of the "polisario", an armed separatist group linked to terrorism in the region, is attempting to fraudulently pass himself off as a supposed "representative to the United Nations". In this regard, the letter circulated by Timor-Leste contains a threefold usurpation of both function and status:

1. The letterhead fallaciously refers to a supposed "Frente POLISARIO representation at the United Nations, New York". This is patently false. The United Nations, an intergovernmental organization composed solely of Member States, has never granted any representation to this armed separatist group.





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2. The signatory of the letter, a notorious usurper of status, grants himself the function of a so-called "ambassador". He does not represent any Member State. He has no accreditation with the United Nations. He represents only himself and the separatist armed group to which he is affiliated.

3. This identity thief claims to be the "representative of the Frente POLISARIO at the United Nations". This is a blatant lie that the Secretary-General of the United Nations has vigorously contradicted in several of his reports to the Security Council, in which he refers to this person as merely "the representative of Frente POLISARIO in New York", including in his latest report (S/2020/938, paras. 8 and 13), as well as in report S/2018/277 (para. 16) and in report S/2017/307 (para. 22). It is obvious that the United Nations does not grant him any status, let alone that of "representative" to the Organization.

Morocco reiterates its strong condemnation of the politicization of the Security Council through such letters of propaganda and lies, which violate international law.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated among the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Omar Hilale Ambassador Permanent Representative