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Identical letters dated 30 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and in reference to the letter of the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Nations dated 25 December 2020 (S/2020/1294), which contains allegations that are devoid of truth and distort the facts in order to deceive public opinion, I should like to clarify the following:

- The State of Qatar rejects the allegations contained in the letter of the Permanent Representative of Bahrain and reiterates its categorical denial of those claims. In that regard, we refer to the facts and evidence mentioned in my letter of 23 December 2020 (S/2020/1284), which refute the claim made by the Permanent Representative of Bahrain that the four fighter jets did not enter Qatari airspace.
- The State of Qatar has recordings that document that four Bahraini Air Force fighter jets bearing identification codes 1210, 1211, 1213 and 1214 violated Qatari airspace over Qatari territorial waters. The recordings also show that the Qatari authorities sent alerts three times over the international communications wavelength to those aircraft and that they did not respond, but rather continued to fly in close combat formation, which constitutes a serious threat and provocation against the security and sovereignty of the State of Qatar.
- The fact that the mission of the Kingdom of Bahrain has sent letters without producing any evidence or documents only goes to show that Bahrain is continuing to spread lies and fabrications to the international community and asking it to rely only on the pretexts and allegations contained in its letter. As is clear from my previous letters, this is not the first time that Bahraini military aircraft have created incidents that undermine security and stability and increase tensions in the region.
- The State of Qatar strongly condemns such behaviour, which constitutes a violation of international law and the relevant international conventions and instruments. It is an unwarranted escalation of the current crisis and ignores the fact that the State of Qatar complies with international laws and instruments relating to international peace and security. Qatar holds the Kingdom of Bahrain fully responsible for the above-mentioned violation. The Kingdom of Bahrain must abide by and respect international principles and agreements, especially those relating to good neighbourliness.





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In conclusion, the Government of Qatar reiterates that although it strives to promote good neighbourliness and complies fully with the provisions of international law and the Charter of the United Nations, Qatar strongly rejects any violation of its sovereignty and territorial integrity and reserves its sovereign right to take any legal measures necessary to defend its borders, airspace and national security in accordance with international laws and rules.

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

(Signed) Alya Ahmed Saif **Al-Thani** Permanent Representative