



Security Council

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Letter dated 15 January 2024 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Further to our letter dated 8 January 2024 (S/2024/33), I am writing to address yet another baseless allegation made by the representative of the United States against my country in the recent meetings of the Security Council. During the Security Council meeting for the adoption of resolution 2722 (2024) held on 10 January 2024, under the agenda item “Maintenance of international peace and security” (S/Agenda/9527), as well as the subsequent briefing on the same agenda item on 12 January (S/Agenda/9532), it is regrettable that, once again, the representative of the United States has misused the Security Council platform to further its political agenda, by disseminating falsehoods and deliberate disinformation and levelling unfounded accusations against the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the current situation in the Red Sea. This misuse is particularly concerning in light of the recent serious violation of international law by the United States and the United Kingdom in committing acts of military aggression against Yemen. Within this context, I would like to reaffirm Iran’s position on this matter as follows:

1. The Islamic Republic of Iran unequivocally condemns and categorically rejects the unfounded allegations made at the aforementioned meetings and emphasizes its commitment to maritime security and freedom of navigation. Despite having serious concerns and reservations about the Security Council’s approach to the Yemen conflict and its resolutions on Yemen, Iran has never undertaken any activities in violation of Security Council resolution 2216 (2015), including any engagement in the sale or transfer of arms or weaponry systems that would contravene this resolution. Furthermore, Iran has always advocated resolving the Yemen crisis through political means.

2. Iran strongly condemns the military aggression perpetrated by the United States and the United Kingdom against Yemen. This illicit action is not only unwarranted and unjustifiable but also blatantly violates Yemen’s sovereignty, territorial integrity, international law, the Charter of the United Nations and Security Council resolutions, thereby posing a significant threat to regional peace and security. The United States and the United Kingdom’s invocation of the right of self-defence under Article 51 of the Charter to justify their internationally wrongful acts is misleading and lacks a legal foundation in international law. Moreover, resolution 2722 (2024) explicitly emphasizes the adherence of Member States to international law. The expedited adoption of resolution 2722 (2024) by the United States raises suspicions of an attempt to legitimize its so-called “international maritime coalition” and serve its regional political objectives. Using the Security Council as a basis to



justify their illegal actions and shield Israel from accountability for war crimes and crimes of genocide in Gaza is evident. In this legal context, Iran vehemently rejects and condemns any arbitrary and misleading interpretation of resolution [2722 \(2024\)](#) by the United States and its allies, aiming to justify their use of illegal force and military aggression against Yemen.

3. It is clear to all that the root causes of the current situation in the Red Sea are the ongoing genocide and barbaric massacres that are being committed by the Israeli regime and fully supported by the United States against the innocent Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. The United States cannot deny or cover up the incontestable reality that recent incidents in the Red Sea are directly related to Israel's continued atrocities against the Palestinian people in Gaza. I wish to emphasize that the caretaker government in Sana'a maintains independent sovereignty, making decisions and taking actions in its own interest. Any attempt to attribute their actions to the Islamic Republic of Iran is a mere diversion from the reality on the ground in Yemen, as well as a distraction from the atrocities occurring in Gaza. The United States, the United Kingdom and their contributing allies bear full responsibility for their violations of international law in committing military aggression against Yemen.

4. We urge the international community to unequivocally denounce the military aggression on Yemen perpetrated by the United States and the United Kingdom. This blatant violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations demands strong condemnation. The Islamic Republic of Iran cautions against the persistent nature of such aggressions, as it poses a threat to regional peace and security, jeopardizes maritime security and freedom of navigation in the Red Sea, and undermines the ongoing United Nations mediation efforts and political processes dedicated to achieving a lasting solution and peace in Yemen.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amir Saeid **Iravani**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
