

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 9 April 2001 from the Permanent Observer of the
League of Arab States to the United Nations addressed to the
President of the Security Council**

In accordance with Article 54 of the Charter of the United Nations, I have the honour to transmit herewith resolution No. 210, dated 28 March 2001, entitled "Developments with respect to the Lockerbie question", adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at the Thirteenth Arab Summit Conference, held on 27 and 28 March 2001 in Amman, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would draw the attention of the members of the Security Council to the present letter and its annex, and have them circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Hussein **Hassouna**
Ambassador



Annex to the letter dated 9 April 2001 from the Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

Developments with respect to the Lockerbie question

The Council of the League of Arab States, meeting at the summit level,

Recalling the relevant communiqués issued by the conferences of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries,

Recalling the relevant decision adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its fifth extraordinary session, held in Sirte on 1 and 2 February 2001,

Welcoming the flexible position taken by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the positive initiatives it has advanced with a view to resolving the dispute in a peaceful manner,

Appreciating the fact that the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya encouraged the two accused, its nationals, to appear before the Scottish court in the Netherlands, and commending the two for their compliance,

Expressing its gratitude to the Committee of Seven of the League of Arab States and the Committee of Five of the Organization of African Unity for their endeavours to seek a just settlement to the dispute,

Taking note of the appointment of a legal expert representing the League of Arab States as a member of the team of international observers monitoring the conduct of the trial of the two accused Libyans before the Scottish court,

Recalling once again the enormity and extent of the damage done to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the sanctions maintained against it for a period of more than seven years and their adverse impact on the economies of neighbouring States,

Affirming that the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya has fully satisfied all the requirements of Security Council resolutions 731 (1992), 748 (1992), 883 (1993) and 1192 (1998),

Noting the restoration of diplomatic relations between the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the United Kingdom, and regarding this positive development as concrete evidence that dialogue and mutual understanding are the best way to solve problems,

Recalling the decision of the Council of the European Union adopted at its meeting held in Brussels on 13 September 1999 to lift the embargo measures imposed on Libya, with the exception of the arms embargo, and the statement made by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on 4 November 1999 conveying the gratification of the British Government at the arrangements made by the Libyan judicial authorities for the visit of a Scottish police team to conduct inquiries relating to the Lockerbie affair,

Reiterating its deep regret that the Security Council has not thus far adopted a resolution lifting the sanctions against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya completely and

definitively, despite having received the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations conveying the information that Libya has fully satisfied the requirements of all the Security Council resolutions indicated,

Taking note of the verdict pronounced in the case by the Scottish court and of the views expressed in its regard by such international legal experts as Robert Black, the Scottish jurist who devised the concept of the court;

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Pact of the League of Arab States,

Decides:

1. To voice its regret at the conviction of one of the Libyan nationals and to express its firm belief that the innocence of either one of them implies that of the other, given that the charges against both were based on identical suppositions;
2. To affirm its solidarity with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in seeking a fair and impartial hearing for the Libyan national Abdel Basset Al-Megrahi and respect for all his legal and human rights during and after the appeals process;
3. To alert world public opinion to the political motives that underlay a verdict imposed on the Libyan national Abdel Basset Al-Megrahi that legal experts have found to be flawed in several respects;
4. To demand the immediate release of the Libyan national Abdel Basset Al-Megrahi, who has been convicted for political reasons totally unrelated to the law and who, should he remain in detention, is to be regarded under all applicable laws and customs as a hostage;
5. To reaffirm its categorical rejection of persistent efforts to block the lifting of the sanctions imposed on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and ignore the provisions of paragraph 16 of Security Council resolution 883 (1993) and the substance of the related report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council, which efforts are in violation of international law, the Charter of the United Nations, the resolutions of the Security Council and the agreement and guarantees found acceptable by the parties to the dispute;
6. To call upon the Security Council to lift the sanctions imposed on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya immediately and definitively on the grounds that the country has satisfied all the requirements of the relevant resolutions of the Council, including its resolution 1192 (1998), and to request the Secretary-General of the League to pursue his endeavours with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the Security Council for the adoption of the necessary measures to that end and to maintain contact with the various regional groupings with a view to bringing the necessary pressures to bear;
7. To urge all Arab States collectively to countermand the sanctions and to regard themselves as free of all obligation in their regard, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 of League Council resolution 111/5848 and paragraph 4 of its resolution 112/5894, given that their maintenance has lost all justification on any grounds whatever;
8. To appeal to the United States of America to engage in a direct dialogue on equal terms with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, in order to discuss and resolve whatever factors may be preventing the normalization of bilateral relations between

the two countries, and allow the Lockerbie case to take its legal and judicial course, as required by the nature of the dispute and as agreed by all parties, free from pressures of any kind;

9. To support the legitimate right of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to receive just compensation for the damage done to it in both material and human terms by the sanctions that were imposed on it;

10. To request the Committee of Seven of the League of Arab States to continue its efforts until such time as the dispute is settled;

11. To retain the present item in its agenda until such time as the dossier on the case can finally be closed;

12. To request the Secretary-General of the League to monitor the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report on the matter to the Council [of Ministers] at its one hundred and sixteenth session.

*Resolution 210
28 March 2001*
