



## Security Council

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### **Letter dated 26 November 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

On 13 and 14 November 2013, at Rabat, the Kingdom of Morocco organized the Second Regional Ministerial Conference on Border Security.

This important meeting, attended by ministers and heads of delegation representing the States of the Arab Maghreb Union, the Sahelo-Saharan region, neighbouring regions and regional and international partners, culminated in the adoption of the Rabat Declaration (see annex).

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

*(Signed)* Mohammed **Louichki**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative



**Annex to the letter dated 26 November 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

[Original: Arabic and French]

**Second Regional Ministerial Conference on Border Security  
(Rabat, 14 November 2013)**

**Rabat Declaration**

We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, the Ministers with responsibility for security and the heads of delegation of the States of the Arab Maghreb, the Sahelo-Saharan region, neighbouring regions and representatives of regional and international partners, meeting at Rabat, on 14 November 2013, with a view to developing a vision and framework for political coordination and establishing operational cooperation mechanisms, as well as ensuring follow-up to implementation of the Tripoli Plan of Action, adopted at the First Regional Ministerial Conference on Border Security, held at Tripoli, on 11 and 12 March 2012;

Conscious of the increasing threat of terrorist and criminal acts, combined with activities by international criminal networks engaged in trafficking in drugs, arms, human beings and illegal goods in the regional context, evidenced by the growth in factors engendering political instability, economic crisis and climate change, as well as of the fragility of regional cooperation in border security and the development of desert regions;

Convinced that border security in the region necessitates the implementation of a comprehensive approach embracing political, socioeconomic, security and legislative dimensions and promoting active, mutual and coordinated cooperation on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility in a regional environment facilitating trade in goods and the movement of people;

Reiterating our commitment to continue our support for the efforts of the Libyan authorities to complete the political transition in Libya through increased mobilization so as to ensure the stability of the country and guarantee the security of its borders, and supporting the efforts of the European Union and the United Nations in this regard;

Expressing our willingness to share with Libya our experience of establishing democratic institutions and the rule of law and strengthening civil capacities;

Reaffirming our support for a regional approach allowing us to meet the challenges posed by border security through the strategies of the international and regional organizations concerned and emphasizing the importance of complementary strategies, approaches and initiatives as well as bilateral cooperation strategies;

Underlining the responsibility of the international community to give its support to Libya on every level, including in the area of security, for a flexible transition from revolution to a State characterized by institutions, law, and respect for human rights and freedoms.

**Agree as follows:**

To accelerate the establishment of the secretariat provided for by the Tripoli Plan of Action and the Rabat Declaration, with Libya assuming responsibility for preparing a proposed structure for this secretariat to be submitted at the meeting of members to be held at Tripoli within two months of the Rabat Declaration;

To identify and implement priority projects on border security, taking into account all pertinent strategies and initiatives emanating from various United Nations bodies and international and regional organizations, as well as all mechanisms to counter terrorism and organized transnational crime;

To create a regional training centre for officials with responsibility for border security in the States of the region, so as to benefit from the expertise of other countries and partners;

To set up sectoral working groups in the fields of security, information, customs and justice to formulate proposals in these areas before the holding of the next ministerial conference;

To promote the exchange, among the States of the region, of information on border security and coordination with a view to facing up to the threats identified by the sectoral working groups referred to in the above paragraph;

To strengthen the capacities of the States of the region with regard to equipment and new technologies that would improve border security;

To establish cooperation in efforts to counter falsification of documents, in particular identity documents, and to promote the use of biometric systems in accordance with international standards, taking into account the needs of States and the negative impact on security in the region;

To prepare a list of priority projects linked to human development, adapted to the specific needs of the populations of border zones so as to ensure their acceptance of the improvement of border security, based on bilateral, regional and international cooperation strategies;

To mobilize appropriate financial resources for the support of bilateral, regional and interregional cooperation projects and activities in the field of border security;

To encourage and strengthen triangular cooperation to facilitate the sharing of experience and best practice and to make optimum use of the resources available;

To welcome the offer by the Arab Republic of Egypt to host the Third Ministerial Conference in the second half of 2014, with a view to strengthening political and security dialogue and evaluating progress made in implementing the decisions adopted.