



Security Council

Distr.: General
1 October 2019
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 30 September 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I write to you in response to the letter dated 3 September 2019 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2019/706](#)), in which the United Arab Emirates, regrettably, continues to mislead the international community by making allegations that have no basis in fact. Those false allegations are intended to justify the criminal attack by the United Arab Emirates on the Yemeni national army while the latter was carrying out its national and constitutional duties by confronting an armed insurrection by militias affiliated with the so-called Southern Transitional Council, which is supported by the United Arab Emirates. The Army was maintaining security and order and restoring stability to cities that had been attacked by rebels affiliated with the Southern Transitional Council.

Allow me to remind the Council that on 8 August 2019, armed militias affiliated with the so-called Southern Transitional Council supported by the United Arab Emirates conducted a military insurrection. It was the second such insurrection, the first having occurred in January 2018, also with support from the United Arab Emirates. Those forces engaged in racist practices against citizens from the northern governorates, including driving them out of the city of Aden and attacking them and their property. They followed that by attacking the forces of the legitimate Government, military installations, Government institutions and buildings, and the homes of ministers and officials. Then the rebels widened their attacks to include security institutions in the city of Zinjibar in Abyan governorate and tried to expand into Shabwah governorate. The forces of the national army managed to defeat the hostile militias and clear them out of all the areas they had attacked in Abyan and Shabwah governorates. On 28 August 2019, advance units of the national army reached the Alam junction at the entrance to the city of Aden. Then events took a dangerous turn, when the United Arab Emirates air force intervened directly on the side of the rebels on specious pretexts with no basis whatsoever that are completely spurious in whole and in part.

The United Arab Emirates is trying to justify its flagrant attack on the Yemeni armed forces on the pretext of fighting terrorism. My Government would like to stress that the attacks by the United Arab Emirates air force on forces of the national army on 28 and 29 August 2019 – what the above-mentioned letter calls “precision air operations aimed at countering and deterring imminent threats to Coalition forces and the people of Aden” – were in fact blatant attacks on units of the Yemeni army. They



were conducted in flagrant violation of the rules of international law and the Charter of the United Nations and resulted in a large number of killed and wounded. Allow us to reiterate that the Republic of Yemen is an essential and important partner in the international coalition to fight and eliminate terrorism and extremism in all its forms and to dry up its sources of financing. Fighting terrorism and extremism is part of the Yemeni army's military doctrine.

My Government strongly objects to the description by the United Arab Emirates in the aforementioned letter of the popular uprising in the city of Aden on 28 August 2019 as the activation of terrorist "sleeper cells" by Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula. What actually happened was an attack on the national army, whose advance units had just reached the Alam junction at the entrance to the city of Aden to stand against the regionalist project being pursued by the Southern Transitional Council rebels supported by the United Arab Emirates. My country regards that description as irresponsible and disparaging to the Yemeni people.

The Republic of Yemen categorically rejects the use by the United Arab Emirates of the pretext of fighting terrorism to justify its attacks on the Yemeni armed forces at the Alam junction, the outskirts of the city of Aden and Abyan governorate. We regard those attacks as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and Security Council resolutions, including resolution [2201 \(2015\)](#), which, in its paragraph 9, calls on all Member States to refrain from external interference which seeks to foment conflict and instability and instead to support the political transition, and resolution [2216 \(2015\)](#), which, inter alia, reiterated the Council's call on all parties and Member States to refrain from taking any actions that undermine the unity, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Yemen, and the legitimacy of the President of Yemen.

We hold the United Arab Emirates and the so-called Southern Transitional Council fully responsible for the armed rebellion in the southern governorates, which represents a serious threat to the security, stability, unity and territorial integrity of the Republic of Yemen. We also hold them responsible for the bloodshed, the lives lost, the institutions destroyed, and the looting, pillaging and other violations carried out by the extralegal rebel forces supported by the United Arab Emirates.

Lastly, my country reserves its right to defend its security and territorial integrity as guaranteed by the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and to confront the military insurrection backed the United Arab Emirates by all available means guaranteed by the Constitution and Yemeni law. It demands that the United Arab Emirates desist from recruiting, financing and arming any military formations in Yemen that exist outside of the State and pose a threat to its security, stability and territorial integrity.

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

(Signed) Abdullah Ali Fadhel **Al-Saadi**
Ambassador Permanent
Representative