



Security Council

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Letter dated 23 September 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I am writing in regard to the hazardous situation of the tanker *FSO Safer* and the danger this tanker is posing on the environment, the humanitarian situation and maritime navigation in the region.

It has been observed by expert observers that a pipeline attached to the vessel is suspected to have been separated from the stabilizers holding it to the bottom and is now floating on the surface of the sea. Moreover, an oil spot has been observed 50 km west of the vessel inside the transit area of merchant ships.

It is obvious that the tanker has reached a critical state of degradation and that the situation is a serious threat to all Red Sea countries, particularly Yemen and Saudi Arabia. Nevertheless, the Houthi militias have ignored all international pleas and warnings about the potentially catastrophic situation and continue to obstruct United Nations efforts to address this crisis and to issue the permits needed to access the tanker. This dangerous situation must not be left unaddressed, and the Security Council bears primary responsibility for securing the safety and security of the area.

Therefore, we request the Security Council to uphold its responsibility and to take immediate actions to cause the Houthi militias to allow the efforts of the United Nations to take place and give access to the tanker in order to take the necessary actions.

I kindly request for the present letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi
Permanent Representative

