



Security Council

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Letter dated 21 November 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from of my Government, I should like to draw attention to the statement that was issued on Tuesday, 19 November 2019, by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Yemen in which it condemns the Iranian regime's decision to recognize the representative of the Houthi militia as the ambassador of the Republic of Yemen in Tehran and to hand over to him the premises of the diplomatic mission of the Republic of Yemen in Tehran, together with its property and archives.

The Republic of Yemen severed diplomatic relations with Iran on 2 October 2015 and, by Ministry of Foreign Affairs communication No. 456/4057/1 of 6 January 2016, demanded of the Iranian regime that it observe the provisions of article 45 of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and protect the premises of the diplomatic mission of the Republic of Yemen in Tehran, together with its property and archives.

The Iranian regime demonstrated its ill intentions towards Yemen when, on 19 November 2019, it received the credentials of the Houthi representative, recognized him as ambassador and handed over to him the premises of the diplomatic mission of Yemen, and enabled an insurrectionist militia to act on behalf of a State Member of the United Nations. This action violates international law and constitutes a failure by Iran to fulfil its international obligations under the Charter of the United Nations, the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations and Security Council resolution [2216 \(2015\)](#) (adopted under Chapter VII), in which the Council, among other things, calls upon "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." In paragraph 11 of that resolution, the Council reaffirms "the principle of the inviolability of diplomatic and consular premises and the obligations of host Governments, including under the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and under the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, to take all appropriate steps to protect diplomatic and consular premises against any intrusion or damage, and to prevent any disturbance of the peace of these missions or impairment of their dignity".

My country's Government believes that defending the rules of international law is a collective endeavour that is the responsibility of all the States Members of the United Nations. The purpose of those actions by Iran is to establish a dangerous precedent in international relations, and the Security Council must respond in order uphold the rules that govern such relations.



Accordingly, my country's Government calls upon the Security Council to condemn this disgraceful conduct, in order to prevent any rogue State from attempting to establish a precedent that would allow the rules of international law to be violated.

In conclusion, my Government reaffirms that any actions taken in the name of the Embassy of the Republic of Yemen in Tehran after the date on which diplomatic relations were severed are void, have no legal effect and are not binding.

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

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