



Security Council

Distr.: General
3 August 2021

Original: English

Letter dated 3 August 2021 from the representatives of Liberia, Romania and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from our respective Governments, we wish to draw your attention to a serious maritime incident which has implications for international peace and security. This attack disrupted and posed a risk to the safety and security of international shipping and was a clear violation of international law.

Initial assessments by the United Kingdom and international partners, shared by Romania, concluded that it is highly likely that on 29 July, the Liberia-flagged, Singapore-owned, United Kingdom-operated merchant vessel *Mercer Street*, was attacked by Iran off the coast of Oman using one or more unmanned aerial vehicles. This unlawful attack sadly resulted in the death of one British and one Romanian national, and damaged the vessel. Our thoughts are now with the loved ones of the deceased.

The United Kingdom and Romania, along with regional and international partners, are conducting a thorough investigation of this attack. We will update the Council in due course. We remain deeply concerned by such attacks that risk regional and international peace and security and believe this act must be condemned by the international community. At the same time, vessels must be allowed to navigate freely in accordance with international law.

We should be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Maggie **Gibson-Glay**
Minister Counsellor/Head of Chancery
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Liberia

(Signed) Ileana-Rodica **Dinculescu**
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Romania

(Signed) Barbara **Woodward**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom

