



Security Council

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Letter dated 23 May 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing to you with respect to the letter dated 22 May 2019 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2019/423](#)) and would like to bring the following to your kind attention.

In my letter dated 17 May 2019 ([S/2019/413](#)), I warned about the recent alarming security situation in the broader Persian Gulf region, based on indications that certain circles from outside of this region, with the help of their regional allies, are pursuing their illegitimate interests by escalating tension in this volatile region. This, indeed, is the true reason behind the current regional situation, not those reasons raised in the letter by Saudi Arabia that are mere fabrications, which I hereby categorically reject.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, through guaranteeing the security of the Strait of Hormuz as well as deploying the naval counterpiracy mission in the Indian Ocean and the adjacent areas – which has been acknowledged and commended by the Security Council in its resolutions – has played an incontestable role in ensuring energy security as well as commercial navigation in the broader Persian Gulf region. Therefore, what in fact impacts “the supply and stability of oil markets” are the United States policies that attempt to prevent the supply of oil through the imposition of its unlawful unilateral coercive measures with the support of its regional allies.

With respect to regional security, I would like to underline that establishing friendly relations as well as peaceful coexistence with the neighbouring countries has been a top priority for my country. The Islamic Republic of Iran has always rejected war, exclusion or pursuing its security and interests at the expense of the insecurity of others or without considering their legitimate interests. Iran will continue to pursue its security, stability and prosperity within the framework of a strong, stable and prosperous region.

Our strong belief – as has repeatedly been stated by Mohammad Javad Zarif, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran – is that the broader Persian Gulf region has had far too many strongmen, who have only caused war and misery. What we need is a stronger region rather than strongmen. At the same time, it is obvious that a strong region can never be materialized without the active and constructive engagement of all regional countries within the context of a genuine dialogue based on mutual respect, inclusivity and basic principles of international law.



It is exactly based on these assumptions that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always extended its hands for brotherhood, friendship and peace to all regional countries, and to that end, its Minister for Foreign Affairs has proposed the establishment of a regional dialogue forum. However, regrettably, repeated calls for dialogue by the Islamic Republic of Iran as well as other countries from inside and outside of the region have been rejected so far by Saudi Arabia.

Nevertheless, if Saudi Arabia has truly realized that it must engage in peace after years of investing in death and destruction in the region, the Islamic Republic of Iran would certainly welcome it and expresses its readiness to actively engage in a genuine and inclusive regional dialogue.

It would be highly appreciated if you could have the present letter issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) **Majid Takht Ravanchi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
