



Statement

His Royal Highness

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Al Saud

Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister of Interior

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In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful
His Excellency the Secretary-General of the United Nations
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Peace be upon you and the mercy and blessings of God.

At the outset, it gives me great pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to you Mr. President for your election as the President of the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly, and to wish you every success in the performance of your duties and responsibility, especially in the midst of the challenges the world faces today. I would also like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to your predecessor, His Excellency Mr. Mogens Lykketoft, the President of the General Assembly at its Seventieth Session, for his wisdom, excellence and vigor in conducting his responsibilities and the leadership qualities he exhibited.

I will remiss if I do not express our deep appreciation to the efforts made by His Excellency the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, during the period of his tenure, a period which was marked by conflicts and a wide range of challenges, on the economic, political and security fronts. Many of which remain with us until today. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia looks forward to continue in its concerted efforts, working in coordination and transparency to achieve the advancement of the United Nations and strengthening its capacities to achieve international peace and security.

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is keen to offer all forms of support to enhance the performance of the United Nations in order to achieve the objectives and principles of the Charter of the United Nations in its purest for the maintenance of security and stability and the well-being of our world, as well as to enhance its efforts in addressing the campaigns of hatred, intolerance, sectarianism, patterns of intervention in the internal affairs, destabilization, and other challenges threatening world peace and security. We are at a pivotal stage; we either join together in a collective effort to address the difficult challenges and disasters we are confronted with in the world or fail and in doing so history will not be on our side, we will lose an important opportunity to put an end to the cycles of conflict, and threaten the future of the coming generations. The type and scale of the challenges we confront require us to work hard toward the reform of the United Nations system, increase the effectiveness of the Security Council, and revitalize the role of the General Assembly and all the relevant bodies of the United Nations. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is ready with the rest of the Member States to give new impetus to the reform process so that the United Nations is able to cope with the aspirations of the 21 century.

Mr. President,

The Palestinian issue remains an ongoing challenge to the United Nations since its inception. Israel continues in its military occupation, terrorist practices and acts of aggression, including its siege and other serious violations of international law, without fear of retribution or accountability. This long-standing issue can only be solved through responding to the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and end

the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory, along with the rest of the occupied Arab territories, including the Syrian Arab Golan, southern Lebanon, which should happen in accordance with the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions and the Arab peace initiative, which aims to achieve comprehensive and lasting peace to this conflict.

Achieving any progress in ending the Palestinian-Israeli conflict seems impossible in the light of the continuation of the Israeli settlement policy, the tampering with the holy city of Jerusalem ruining the Arab, the Islamic and Christian identity of the city, and the heartless policy of repression practiced against the Palestinian people.

Mr. President,

With regard to the Syrian crisis, the international community is still unable to take concert decisions to save the Syrian people from the crimes that take place there, murders, destruction and displacement all of which is made by President Bashar Al-Assad. These action has resulted in the killing of more than half a million people, displaced more than twelve million Syrians which resulted in giving the world the biggest humanitarian disaster in the contemporary history. In the years of this bitter crisis, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has put all the efforts to contribute positively in the political solution process, which aims to carry out the political transition in Syria, in accordance with the Geneva statement 1; to support the Syrian opposition moderate, according to the Vienna Statement, in implementation of the decision of the Security Council Resolution 2455. We also expressed our support for the efforts of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Syria crisis, Mr. Staffan de Mistura. Here we call again upon the International Syria Support

Group (ISSG), to abide by what has been agreed upon, and move forward to end the humanitarian crisis and guarantee the protection of the political transition process.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is keen to provide humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees in the neighboring countries through direct aid to the campaigns to collect donations for relief of the Syrian people.

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, with our brothers in the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council countries, have taken the initiative to tackle the crisis experienced by the Republic of Yemen, which has received a great international acceptance. This initiative has contributed to the launching of the national dialogue which has created the floor for the Security Council resolutions. My country has spared no effort to support Yemen in all feasible ways. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has contributed with more than three billion dollars to boost the Yemeni economy; however, the coup started by Al-Houthi and their allies dashed the hopes of the Yemenis and threatened Yemen security and stability.

Despite the repeated violations made by Al-Houthi militia and supporters of former president Ali Abdullah Saleh, my country has worked relentlessly to rebuild confidence to return to the political negotiations through providing full support to the United Nations Special Envoy for Yemen, Mr. Ismaïl Ould Cheikh Ahmed. This has paved the way for the start of the political consultations in Kuwait, which have had a response from the Yemeni government and Al-

Houthis; despite the intransigence of the latter and their allies which is evident in their refusal to comply with their obligations in accordance with the framework agreed upon.

At the humanitarian level, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was one of the biggest supporters of the humanitarian operations in Yemen. Since 2015, the total amount of humanitarian aids provided to Yemen has exceeded 470 million US dollars. It should be noted that the distribution of humanitarian assistance has reached all parts of Yemen, including areas under the control of Al-Houthi.

Mr. President,

My country, along with the countries in the region, are still facing a continuous challenges presented by Iran. By Iran's support to the terrorist militias' groups in Bahrain, Kuwait, Yemen, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and other areas; the region is facing a serious danger of destabilizing its security. Along with these actions, Iran is escalating the dissemination sectarian speech which is a grave concern in our Arab and Islamic world; as the outcomes of these speeches are deepening the conflicts and provoking sectarian extremism.

The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to desist from all of the policies of discrimination, racism and sectarianism; and to begin to build positive relations with its neighbors on the basis of the principles of good-neighborliness and non-interference in the internal affairs of other States. However, this will not be accomplished unless the Iranian government starts to review and change its policies with the countries in the region and other countries

the international community which could help in achieving security and stability for all.

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia calls upon the protection of the sovereignty of all Member States, and emphasizes the importance of the commitment of all constitutional institutions in all States to refrain from any measure that affects the immunity of sovereign, for example, the initiative of the US Congress in the adoption of the draft (GASTA), which constitutes a serious threat to the sovereign rights, considered a breach of principles established in international law, and creates a precedent; if pursued by other States will lead to undermine the principles of diplomatic interaction between States.

Mr. President,

The fight against the extremist speech and the ideologies that feeds terrorism are, with no doubts, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia priorities. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is the first country to take a step in addressing the phenomenon of extremism and terrorism thought and the activities of each at the local, regional and international levels.

The Kingdom Saudi Arabia has adopted a basic principle in this regard that is not limited to the Security concerns only but includes the Ideological side of the matter. This plan based on facing a terrorist through a comprehensive and coherent plan that uprooting the intellectual roots and pillars of terrorism which helped in building this abnormality behaviors.

Senior scholars and intellectuals in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the warning of the danger of deviant thought leading to terrorism, and issued the Board of Senior Ulema in the kingdom confirmed data which

prohibit out to areas of conflict and sedition as taboo and enter the circle of criminality, and described the instigators of the that the advocates of error must be tracked down and punished. We hope that the tendency of scholars and institutions and religious, intellectual, and in the rest of the States as such and to issue the contribution to addressing the deviant thought whatever its source.

Mr. President,

The question of displaced persons because of the conflict is a matter of extreme gravity and the numbers are troubling, for refugees the number has exceeded 20 million, and 40 million for displaced persons; these numbers are increasing every day. In return, there shortfall in funding and absence of appropriate mechanisms of protection for all of those people.

The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia reaffirms its full commitment to cooperate with the United Nations organs to deal with this humanitarian catastrophe through the provision of appropriate support to States receiving refugees, and the creation of appropriate mechanisms for protection. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has received more than 2.5 million Syrian refugees and 2 million Yemeni refugees; and tried to facilitate regular accommodation for them and free access to education, health care and employment. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia did not treat them as refugees. My country has also help refugees in camps in various borders by providing shelters, building schools, and medical clinics.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia expresses its deep concern regarding the hostile and inhuman speech against Muslims and against refugees in particular. From here, we call upon all States, humanitarian bodies and international organizations to rise above any racist speech; and to raise

awareness, responsibility, and to provide the necessary protection to migrants and refugees, who are escaping from the fire of unfair authorities and terrorist groups and disasters.

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia reaffirms once again the importance of making the Middle East a Free Zone from all weapons of mass destruction and nuclear weapons. Thus, there is an absolute need for Israel to placing its nuclear facilities under the international inspections of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and signing the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development. We also confirm that achieving security and stability in the region does not come through the pursuit of possessing these weapons or interfering in other countries' national matters, rather it comes from establishing relations based on good-neighborly relations and constructive cooperation.

In this range, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia condemns the nuclear tests conducted by North Korea and considers that they constitute a threat to international peace and security and calling to reach a solution to the outstanding issues in the region through peaceful means.

Also, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is a special attention to sustainable development where they adopted many strategies, policies, plans and laws and initiatives to achieve the economic vision 2030 which included a plan of economic diversification in the medium and long term. In this context, my country focus on three axes, namely the vital community and booming economy, supply and permitted. These axes

are complementary and consistent with each other in order to achieve our goals and maximize the use of the bases of this vision.

In the field of aids and miscellaneous finance for developing countries, the Kingdom is one of the largest aid donors in the world during recent years it is estimated that the total assistance provided by the United Kingdom to developing countries during the period 1973-2014m of more than 115 billion US dollars which benefited approximately 100 countries of the world in all continents. The proportion of the Kingdom aid to the developing countries to the GDP in those years the targeted development aid by the United Nations of the gross domestic product of donor states of 0.7 % this included help provide non-refundable and non-restricted and loans concessional development provided by the Saudi Development Fund.

I must, in this context, the reference to the achievement of sustainable development remains very difficult of peoples suffering from occupation as it does not develop with the occupation it is therefore necessary to reaffirm the commitment of the international community including has pledged during the conferences and summits the former Committee on Sustainable Development and comprehensive development and to remove the obstacles in front of the occupied peoples, notably the Israeli occupation of Palestine and the occupied Arab territories.

Mr. President,

No Longer the phenomenon of climate change constituted a threat to the future but has become a disaster also the present, so the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia reaffirms once again its commitment to the

improvement of energy efficiency in recognition of the importance of the emission reduction as a means to combat climate change and to support the sustainable development programs. It also emphasizes the principle of "common but differentiated responsibility", on the basis of national priorities and circumstances of each State. We concur with the world to reach the comprehensive convention climate change and appreciate the outstanding role of His Excellency the Secretary-General of the United Nations in reaching this Convention, we hope that the steps for ratification in the constitutional organs in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the near future, God willing.

In conclusion, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia believing the effective role by the United Nations it would be in the forefront of countries seeking to achieve all the best of mankind and we all aspire to the security and stability and development, and will continue the kingdom in the performance of its humanitarian, political and economic sense of responsibility and humanitarian support and Social Council to ensure justice, concepts which were and still are fixed axes of international action for our country. We look forward to the realization and implementation of the objectives of the sustainable development plan 2030m and the completion of the development and well-being of our world and humanity. Thank you Mr. President and peace be upon you and the mercy and blessings of Allah.