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3 January 2016

URGENT

Identical letters dated 3 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, the President of the General Assembly, and the Secretary-General of the United Nations

Excellency,

Upon instructions from my Government, I wish to inform you of the storming and attack against the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, on 2 January 2015, in Tehran, Iran. While the Embassy's premise was violated, ransacked, and set on fire, the Iranian authorities failed to fulfill their duties to provide adequate protection. A similar attack took place, during the same day, against the Consulate of Saudi Arabia in Mashhad, Iran. Once more, the Iranian authorities were idle and failed to fulfill their obligations, under international law, to prevent the attacks.

The Government of Saudi Arabia condemns in the strongest terms all acts of violence against our diplomatic premises. Moreover, we are appalled at the failure of the Iranian authorities to respect the fundamental principle of the inviolability of diplomatic and consular premises, and the obligations of host Governments, including under the 1961 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, to take all appropriate steps to protect diplomatic and consular premises against any intrusions or damage.

We call upon the Security Council to take all appropriate measures to ensure the inviolability of diplomatic facilities and the protection of all Saudi diplomats in Iran.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter is circulated to all members of the Council and be issued as a document of the Security Council and of the General Assembly under the relevant agenda items. Identical letter has been sent to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi
Permanent Representative

-H.E. Elbio Rosselli
President of the Security Council

Cc:

- H.E. Mr. Mogens Lykketoft
President of the General Assembly
- H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-Moon
Secretary- General of the United Nations