Translated from Arabic

Declaration by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt rejects and objects to the declaration that was issued on 6 July 2017 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan, and which was as published on the website of the United Nations, and reiterates the substance of the declaration that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt issued on 4 May 2017. It would also like to stress the following points:

1. The claim of the Sudan that the Hala'ib triangle is Sudanese territory has no legal, historical or factual basis. In its declaration, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan states that Egyptian presence in the Hala'ib triangle constitutes an illegal occupation, and rejects Egyptian sovereignty over the triangle. That statement is wrong and unacceptable. Moreover, all of the other claims that are made in that declaration, including the assertion that international humanitarian law is applicable to and violations had occurred in those areas, have no basis in truth.

2. All the areas north of the 22nd parallel of latitude north referenced in the declaration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan are Egyptian lands that are part the national territory and the population of which are Egyptian nationals. The attempts of the Sudan to raise doubts regarding Egyptian sovereignty over those areas are merely groundless claims that are not consonant with a sound legal assessment of the temporary administrative arrangements that were granted to the Sudan pursuant to internal administrative decisions that were taken by the Egyptian Minister of the Interior during period of condominium.

3. All Egyptian security and administrative presence is within the borders of Egypt and will remain in place. Such a presence is in line with the exercise by Egypt of sovereignty over its territory up to the border between Egypt and the Sudan, which runs along the 22nd parallel of latitude north.

Issued in Cairo on 12 November 2017