

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 7 December 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to enclose herewith a statement dated 7 December 2017 issued by the Royal Court of Saudi Arabia regarding the status of Jerusalem in which it reiterates the urgent need to find a just and sustainable solution to the Palestinian conflict, in accordance with the relevant international resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative, so that the Palestinian people may regain its legitimate rights, which will strengthen security and stability in the region (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 7 December 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

Statement issued on 7 December 2017 by the Royal Court

The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is greatly disappointed at the statement made by the President of the United States, Donald Trump, recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and announcing that the United States embassy would be moved to that city.

The Government of Saudi Arabia has previously warned of the grave consequences of such an unjustified and irresponsible measure. Saudi Arabia strongly deplores this measure and profoundly regrets that the Government of the United States has taken this action, which demonstrates great disdain for the historical and immutable rights of the Palestinian people in relation to Jerusalem, as guaranteed by the relevant United Nations resolutions and recognized and supported by the international community.

This action will not change or affect the immutable and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people in relation to Jerusalem and the other occupied territories, nor will it succeed in imposing a new reality there. Nonetheless, it is an enormous setback to the peace process and a departure from the historically neutral position of the United States regarding the question of Jerusalem, and it will further complicate the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

The Government of Saudi Arabia hopes that the Government of the United States will reverse its position and join the international consensus on restoring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. Saudi Arabia reaffirms the need for a just and lasting solution to the question of Palestine in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative, as that would enable the Palestinian people to reclaim their legitimate rights and would establish security and stability in the region.
