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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 10244th meeting of the Security Council, held on 15 October 2026, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council condemned in the strongest terms continued and escalatory Houthi attacks against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, including attacks impacting civilian aviation and energy infrastructure, which have resulted in the killing and injury of civilians. This includes the reckless strikes on 10 and 11 October on King Khalid International Airport, which killed 13 people and wounded over 300, as well as multiple strikes on other airports and Saudi Aramco facilities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

"The Security Council expressed their deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of the victims and to the Government and the people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and wish for a speedy and full recovery to those who were injured.

"The Security Council also reiterated their condemnation in the strongest terms of continued Houthi attacks and threats against commercial shipping in the Red Sea and Bab al-Mandab and stressed the importance of safeguarding the safety of commercial vessels and their crews. They further stressed the importance of acting in accordance with international law, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and of upholding navigational rights and freedoms. They also recalled the importance of respecting international humanitarian law.

"The Security Council stressed the importance of the full implementation of resolution 2216 (2015) and subsequent resolutions. They called for practical cooperation, including with the Government of Yemen, to prevent the Houthis from acquiring the arms and related materiel, technical assistance, training, financing and other assistance related to military activities necessary to carry out further attacks and reiterated that all Member States must adhere to their obligations in regard to the targeted arms embargo.

"The Security Council expressed their solidarity with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the face of attacks impacting civilians and civilian objects on its territory. They affirmed the inherent right of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of self-defence in accordance with international law.

"The Security Council recalled their press statements of 7 August (SC/16429) and 18 September (SC/16458), which condemned in the strongest

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terms the Houthis military escalation in Yemen, demanded the Houthis immediately cease their military escalation and their attacks impacting civilians and civilian objects, and reaffirmed Security Council support for the Government of Yemen and their strong commitment to the unity, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Yemen.

"The Security Council emphasised that sustainable peace in Yemen cannot be achieved through violence, coercion or use of force. They reiterated their support for United Nations Special Envoy Hans Grundberg in his efforts towards a negotiated, inclusive, Yemeni-led and Yemeni-owned political settlement based on the agreed references and consistent with relevant Security Council resolutions."