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Oceans and the law of the sea: oceans and the law of the sea

Letter dated 23 September 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I refer to the statement by the President of Security Council dated 9 August 2021 ([S/PRST/2021/15](#)), in which, among other things, the Council notes with concern the ongoing threats to maritime safety and security, and recognizes the importance of enhancing international and regional cooperation to counter threats to maritime safety and security.

On this basis, I draw your attention to the fact that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has faced constant terrorist attacks and threats towards its territorial waters and critical infrastructure on the Red Sea, which have reached in total 237 attacks to date. These attacks include naval mines, bomb-laden boats, missiles and unmanned aircraft arriving from the Red Sea.

Therefore, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia calls upon the United Nations to carry out its responsibilities towards maintaining peace and security in the region. While emphasizing my country's keen and persistent striving to maintain its security and the safety of its critical infrastructure and the security of the region as a whole, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will not hesitate to take any action that will enable it to deter any threat that would affect the security and the safety of the passageways of the Red Sea. This will be achieved through direct cooperation and coordination with its regional and international partners, in order to preserve its interests and sovereignty and to support the safety and security of the Red Sea and the region in general.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 78 (a). We also kindly request that it be published in the *Law of the Sea Bulletin*.

(Signed) Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi
Permanent Representative

