



No: SUN/301/17

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Sudan to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and pursuant to article 16, paragraph 2, of the UN Convention on the law of the Sea, has the honour to attach herewith the declaration issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the Republic of the Sudan dated July 6th, 2017, concerning response to the reply of Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the Government of Sudan deposit of the Presidential Decree No. (148) /2017 and its annexes concerning The Baselines of the maritime areas of the Republic of Sudan and the coordinates of the straight base line of the Sudan in the Red Sea.

Having brought this matter to the kind attention of the office, The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Sudan should be grateful if the office would have this declaration circulated as an official document to the member states.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Sudan to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

July 13, 2017

**Cc: The Division For Ocean Affairs And The Law Of The Sea
Department Of The Legal Affairs Of The United Nations**



Translated from Arabic

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

Declaration made by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan

With reference to the declaration that was made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Cairo on 4 May 2017 and published on the website of United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan wishes to stress the following points:

1. The present geographical and political boundaries, including the Hala'ib triangle, which is located to the north of latitude 22°N, are the borders inherited by the Sudan upon its independence on 1 January 1956, according to documents and maps issued at the time, most importantly those deposited with the United Nations before and at the time of independence.
2. In accordance with the rules of international law, international conventions and the principles adopted by the Organization of African Unity, particularly the Cairo Declaration of July 1964, African States must abide by the borders that they inherited when gaining independence. It is therefore not acceptable from a legal standpoint to put forward any argument contrary to that principle, which has been applied by the Organization of African Unity to all border disputes in Africa and invoked by the International Court of Justice in numerous relevant precedents.
3. The Sudan expresses its reservation regarding the soundness and legality of the arguments made by the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in its declaration. It reserves the right to demonstrate that those arguments are invalid from a legal and historical standpoint, particularly in the light of the agreement reached in 1899.
4. The Government of the Sudan rejects the unsubstantiated allegations to the effect that Egypt has exercised continuous sovereignty over the Hala'ib triangle. It is in possession of legal arguments, historical documents and legal evidence confirming that Egypt did not exercise any kind of sovereignty in the Hala'ib triangle before it occupied that territory in 1995.
5. The Republic of the Sudan stresses that it does not recognize the Egyptian military presence or any of the ways in which Egypt currently exercises sovereignty in the Hala'ib triangle. It deems that presence to be an illegal occupation. It rejects all of Egypt's practices and acts of sovereignty in the Hala'ib triangle, whether land or at sea, and rejects all of the declarations made by Egypt in that regard. Nor will it recognize any rights assumed by a third party on the basis of any actions taken by the Arab Republic of Egypt in the context of the current occupation.

In particular, the Government of the Republic of the Sudan demands that the Egyptian occupation authorities comply with the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and all of the rules of international humanitarian law. Egypt must refrain from changing the demographics of the land or its inhabitants, harming the Sudanese citizens living under occupation in the Hala'ib triangle or their property, and denying their fundamental rights, including the right to life, freedom of expression and freedom from torture, arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance.

The Republic of Sudan rejects the allegations contained in the declaration made by the Arab Republic of Egypt on 4 May 2017. It calls upon the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt to promptly resort to arbitration and resolve the crisis peacefully in accordance with the principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

This declaration was made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan on 6 July 2017.
