

**Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations
New York**

UN/SG/971

19 October 2012

Sir,

I am transmitting herewith:

- Diplomatic note No. 7/2/1/327421, dated 6 October 2012, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the latter State's incursion and aggression against oil facilities in the submerged zone of the eastern region of Saudi Arabia (translation attached);
- Letter No. 7/2/1/328359, dated 7 October 2012, from the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Your Excellency informing you of those incursions (translation attached).

I should be grateful if you would peruse the above-mentioned communications and have them published in the forthcoming issue of the Law of the Sea Bulletin, in accordance with the regulations of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Abdallah Yahya A. **Al-Mouallimi**
Permanent Representative

His Excellency Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations

[Annex 1]

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia wishes to inform the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran that, at 0853 hours on Wednesday, 6 Ramadan A.H. 1433 (25 July A.D. 2012), an Iranian helicopter circled several times over drilling rig site ADC-38, in the Hasbah field, and drilling rig site NRL-337 in the same area.

In addition, at 0715 hours on Thursday, 7 Ramadan A.H. 1433 (26 July A.D. 2012), two Iranian military vessels intercepted and stopped a boat belonging to a Saudi Aramco contractor in the Arabia field.

Both those fields are located within the submerged zone of Saudi Arabia as demarcated by the dividing line between the submerged areas of Saudi Arabia and the Islamic Republic of Iran, in accordance with the agreement concluded between the countries on 2 Sha'ban A.H. 1388 (24 October A.D. 1968).

The Government of Saudi Arabia protests this action, and asks the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure that such incursions do not recur. The Government of Saudi Arabia reserves fully its right to take any action it sees fit in order to protect its waters and oil facilities, and holds the Iranian authorities fully responsible for any consequences.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia takes this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran the assurances of its highest consideration.

No. 7/2/1/327421

Date: 20 Dhu'l-Qa'dah A.H. 1433 (6 October A.D. 2012)

[Annex 2]

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia wishes to inform the Secretary-General that, at 0853 hours on Wednesday, 6 Ramadan A.H. 1433 (25 July A.D. 2012), an Iranian helicopter circled several times over drilling rig site ADC-38, in the Hasbah field, and drilling rig site NRL-337 in the same area.

In addition, at 0715 hours on Thursday, 7 Ramadan A.H. 1433 (26 July A.D. 2012), two Iranian military vessels intercepted and stopped a boat belonging to a Saudi Aramco contractor in the Arabia field.

Both those fields are located within the submerged zone of Saudi Arabia as demarcated by the dividing line between the submerged areas of Saudi Arabia and the Islamic Republic of Iran, in accordance with the agreement concluded between the countries on 2 Sha'ban A.H. 1388 (24 October A.D. 1968).

The Government of Saudi Arabia, by diplomatic note No. 7/2/1/327421 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia, dated 20 Dhu'l-Qa'dah A.H. 1433 (6 October A.D. 2012), addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran (copy attached), protested those incursions and asked the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure that such actions do not recur. It also stated that it reserves fully its right to take any action it sees fit in order to protect its waters and oil facilities, and holds the Iranian authorities fully responsible for any consequences.

The Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia would be grateful if you would have this letter and the attached diplomatic note of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs distributed to all Member States and published in the forthcoming issue of the Law of the Sea Bulletin.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia takes this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General the assurances of its highest consideration.

No. 7/2/1/328359

Date: 21 Dhu'l-Qa'dah A.H. 1422 (7 October A.D. 2012)