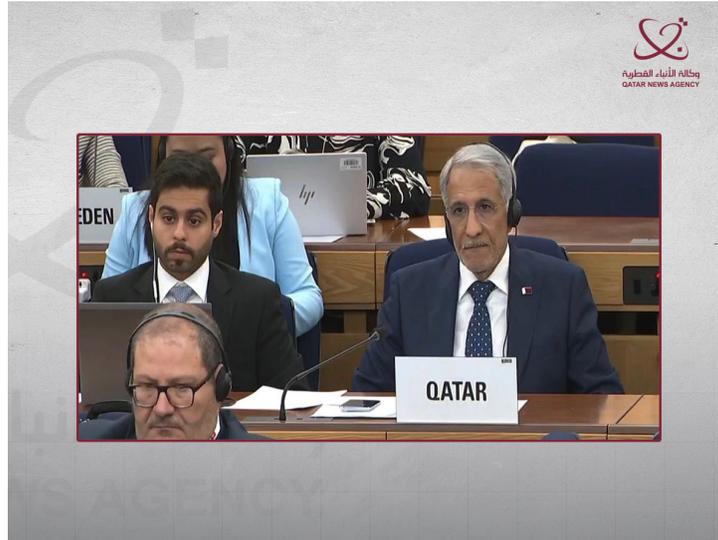

Qatar Condemns Iran Maritime Threats at IMO



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London, March 19 (QNA): The State of Qatar has strongly condemned Iran's attacks and threats against commercial shipping and maritime infrastructure, particularly in the Strait of Hormuz, describing them as a clear violation of international law and the principle of freedom of navigation.

The statement was delivered by HE Ambassador Sheikh Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Saud Al-Thani, Qatar's Ambassador to the United Kingdom and Permanent Representative to the

International Maritime Organization (IMO), during the 36th extraordinary session of the IMO Council.

The session addressed recent aggression against Gulf states and its implications for maritime navigation, including the potential closure of the Strait of Hormuz. Qatar reaffirmed its condemnation of attacks targeting its territory, as well as those against Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, stressing that such actions violate state sovereignty and breach the UN Charter.

The ambassador welcomed UN Security Council Resolution 2817, which condemned these attacks, and emphasized the importance of safeguarding freedom of navigation and adherence to international law.

He warned that such threats endanger maritime safety, put seafarers' lives at risk, and jeopardize one of the world's most vital shipping routes. He further cautioned about serious consequences for global trade, supply chains, and energy security.

Qatar reaffirmed its support for international efforts to ensure maritime safety and security.