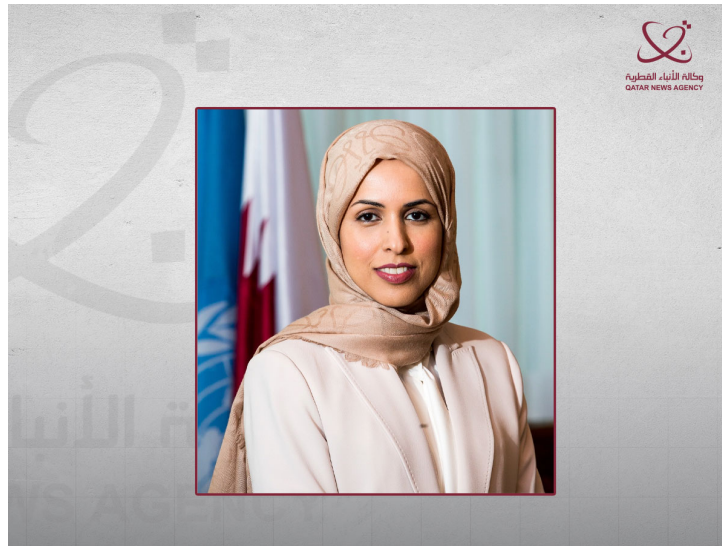


Qatar Affirms Ongoing Efforts at Regional, International Levels for Conflict Prevention and Mitigation, Root Causes Solutions



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NEW YORK: The State of Qatar has reaffirmed its commitment to advancing regional and international efforts aimed at conflict prevention, reducing tensions, addressing the root causes of disputes, and strengthening mediation, peacebuilding, and humanitarian diplomacy to preserve international peace and security.

The position was outlined in a statement delivered by Sheikha Alya Ahmed bin Saif Al-Thani during the UN Security Council's open debate on the protection of civilians in armed conflict at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

She stated that the annual debate serves as an important reminder of the urgent humanitarian and legal responsibility to protect civilians and renew commitment to international humanitarian law. She noted that the latest report of the UN Secretary-General presents an alarming picture of worsening civilian suffering in conflicts around the world, particularly among women and children.

The Qatari envoy expressed deep concern over the growing attacks on medical personnel and healthcare facilities, stressing that such actions represent clear violations of international humanitarian law and Security Council Resolution 2286, which focuses on the protection of healthcare services during armed conflicts. She noted that the debate coincides with the tenth anniversary of the resolution.

The statement further highlighted the serious humanitarian and economic consequences arising from continued violations of international law and the disruption of vital maritime navigation routes. Qatar specifically referred to the continued closure of the Strait of Hormuz by Iran, stating that it has negatively affected civilian supply chains, energy exports, and food markets while

contributing to rising prices and worsening food insecurity in vulnerable countries and communities.

Qatar reiterated that the closure of the Strait of Hormuz constitutes a dangerous precedent and a direct threat to global security, international trade, and energy stability. The statement called for the immediate reopening of the Strait, removal of naval mines, and an end to illegal fees imposed on commercial vessels. It emphasized the importance of guaranteeing freedom of navigation in accordance with international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and relevant Security Council resolutions.

During the debate, Qatar also expressed appreciation for the mediation efforts undertaken by Pakistan and other parties involved in diplomatic initiatives. The State reaffirmed its support for peaceful solutions and dialogue aimed at ending regional crises through diplomatic means rather than escalation.