

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 10 February 2016 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, I am writing to report to the Security Council that the Kingdom of the Netherlands is taking necessary and proportionate measures against the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh) in Syria in the exercise of the inherent right of collective self-defence of Iraq.

In its resolution 2249 (2015), the Security Council recognized that ISIL/Da'esh constitutes a global and unprecedented threat to international peace and security. It called upon Member States to prevent and suppress terrorist acts committed by ISIL and to eradicate the safe haven that ISIL has established over significant parts of Iraq and Syria. The Council reiterated this call in resolution 2254 (2015). In this respect, the Council noted in resolution 2249 (2015) the letters from the Iraqi authorities stating that ISIL/Da'esh has established a safe haven outside Iraq's borders that is a direct threat to the security of the Iraqi people and territory, and requesting the United States of America to take the lead in efforts to defend Iraq.

Pursuant to this request, the Kingdom of the Netherlands is taking measures against ISIL/Da'esh in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

I would be grateful if you would draw the attention of the members of the Security Council to the present letter and have it distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Paul **Menkveld**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

