

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

December 18, 2024

Dear Senator Van Hollen,

Thank you for your letter dated December 2, 2024, concerning the Joint Resolution of Disapproval you filed on November 21, 2024, with respect to certain sales to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and in relation to reports of UAE's support to the Rapid Sudan Forces (RSF) in the ongoing conflict in Sudan.

The United States has been a global leader in trying to end this crisis, leading negotiation efforts twice in Saudi Arabia and once in Switzerland via the Aligned for Advancing Lifesaving and Peace in Sudan (ALPS). As you know, the UAE has been a partner in ALPS. The UAE used its influence to bring the RSF to the negotiations in Switzerland while the Sudanese Armed Forces boycotted the talks.

The UAE has also been a humanitarian contributor throughout the war and other conflicts worldwide. The UAE continues to be a dominant humanitarian actor in Gaza, as one of the only countries operating on the ground, providing as much as \$828 million since October 2023, 42 percent of total aid provided in Gaza in that time period.

Despite reports we have received suggesting the contrary has occurred to date, the UAE has informed the Administration that it is not now transferring any weapons to the RSF and will not do so going forward. The Administration will work with relevant departments and agencies to monitor for indicators of the credibility and reliability of these assurances provided by the UAE. By January 17, I commit to providing you with the executive branch's up-to-date assessment in that regard.

Sincerely,



Brett McGurk
Deputy Assistant to the President
and White House Coordinator for the
Middle East and North Africa

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510