

Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation, and Moroccan Expatriates, MFA Nasser Bourita affirmed on Sunday that His Majesty King Mohammed VI, may God assist him, has always considered that the safety and stability of Arab Gulf countries are inseparable from Morocco's own safety: *"What hurts you hurts us, and what affects us affects you."*

This position was expressed in MFA Bourita's speech during the extraordinary session of the League of Arab States' Council at the ministerial level, devoted to examining Iran's aggression against the sovereignty and integrity of Arab states.

During this meeting he attended via videoconference, the minister emphasized Morocco's steadfast stance in support of its Arab brothers, as expressed by His Majesty King Mohammed VI, through telephone calls the Sovereign held with His brothers, Their Majesties and Highnesses in the Gulf countries.

This approach, MFA Bourita noted, clearly and firmly reflects the Kingdom's support for these States' safety, their sovereignty, and the integrity of their territories, considering that their security and stability are intrinsic to Morocco's own.

In this context, he recalled the Speech delivered by His Majesty the King at the Morocco-Gulf Cooperation Council Summit held on April 20, 2016, in which the Sovereign stated: *"Therefore, to defend our security is not only a shared obligation, but it is also a collective, indivisible one. Morocco has always perceived the security and stability of Gulf countries as an intrinsic part of its own security and stability. What hurts you hurts us, and what affects us affects you."*

MFA Bourita also conveyed the Kingdom's strong condemnation of Iran's brutal attacks against brotherly Arab countries, describing them as a flagrant breach of these States' sovereignty and a direct threat to the security of the entire region, reaffirming Morocco's full solidarity with these countries and its support for all legitimate measures they deem appropriate to safeguard their security and the tranquility of their citizens and residents on their territory.

In this context, he explained that these despicable attacks are but one manifestation of the hostile policies the Iranian regime continues to adopt towards neighboring countries and the region in general, in an attempt to fuel discord and destabilize the region, particularly through the creation of terrorist entities and militias that pledge allegiance to it at the expense of the interests, safety, and stability of their own countries.

Furthermore, the Minister stressed that strengthening Arab cohesion and enshrining joint action within the framework of the Arab League remains the best way to safeguard the collective security of Arab countries, protect their sovereignty and the interests of their peoples, and address all challenges to the stability and safety of the region, away from division, fragmentation, and dispersion.

He also urged the adoption of a unified and firm Arab position to confront any practice that could threaten the stability of the Arab region, insisting on the need to immediately put an end to Iran's heinous aggressions in order to allow diplomatic efforts to unfold, prioritize the path of dialogue, and contribute to easing tensions and de-escalation in the region.