

LONDON: Saudi Arabia, the UAE, the UK, and the US have condemned the Houthis' large scale military reinforcement and all attacks that threaten to derail the truce in Yemen. They reaffirmed their support to Yemen's Presidential Leadership Council, stressed the importance of cohesion in the council, and welcomed the council's commitment to improving basic services and economic stability in the war-torn country. The Quad said it fully supports the efforts of UN Special Envoy Hans Grundberg to extend and expand the truce which is due for renewal on Oct. 2, and that all terms of the truce must be fully implemented. The countries welcomed the flow of fuel into Hodeidah Port despite a Houthi order that delayed the established process for clearing ships, and the resumption of flights in and out of Sanaa airport. The governments of the four countries also agreed that a permanent ceasefire and a durable political settlement must be the ultimate objectives of the Yemeni political process, under UN auspices, and that such a settlement must be based on the agreed references and relevant UN Security Council resolutions. The countries, known as the Quad, recently met to discuss the situation in Yemen and also condemned recent Houthi attacks on Taiz and a Houthi military parade that was put on in Hodeidah at the beginning of this month which violated the Hodeidah Agreement. They called for the implementation of outstanding measures including the opening by the Houthis of the main roads around Taiz and an agreement on a joint mechanism for the payment of civil servant salaries. The Quad welcomed the tangible benefits of the truce in Yemen for the country's people since it began on April.2 and the .continued implementation of agreed confidence building measures by its government