

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
21 September 2021

Original: English

Letter dated 20 September 2021 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am writing to you with regard to a letter dated 16 September 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2021/802](#)).

China is gravely concerned about the nuclear-powered submarine cooperation between the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia. This act has brazenly provoked regional confrontation and division, seriously undermined regional peace and stability, intensified the arms race and undercut international non-proliferation efforts. It is against the will and trend of regional countries to pursue peaceful development.

The nuclear-powered submarine cooperation between the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia, with nuclear proliferation risks, proves once again that the United States and the United Kingdom are adopting double standards and using nuclear cooperation as a tool for geopolitical games. As a non-nuclear weapon State under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Australia's sincerity in continuing to fulfil its nuclear non-proliferation commitments is open to doubt. The international community has every reason to keep a close eye on and question the nuclear-powered submarine cooperation between the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia and express legitimate concerns over the possible negative consequences therefrom, including nuclear proliferation risks.

China always believes that every regional mechanism must conform to the trend of peace and development of the times and contribute to enhancing mutual trust and cooperation among regional countries. It should not target any third party or undermine its interests. Seeking a closed and exclusive clique runs counter to the trend of the times and the aspirations of countries in the region. It will find no support and lead nowhere. Relevant countries should abandon their outdated cold war zero-sum mentality and narrow-minded geopolitical perception, respect the will of the people of regional countries and do more to contribute to regional peace, stability and development.

It would be greatly appreciated if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) **Zhang Jun**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations

