

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 4 January 2021 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to transmit herewith an assessment of the work of the Security Council for the month of July 2020 during the presidency of Germany (see annex).

The assessment was prepared by the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations. While other members of the Council have been consulted, the assessment should not be considered as representing the views of the Council.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Günter **Sautter**  
Ambassador  
Deputy Permanent Representative



**Annex to the letter dated 4 January 2021 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

**Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Germany (July 2020)**

**Introduction**

Under the presidency of Germany in July 2020, the Security Council held 40 meetings, including 17 open meetings by videoconference, 12 closed meetings by videoconference, 2 briefings, 2 consultations and 1 informal interactive dialogue. The Council adopted six resolutions and agreed on one presidential statement and six press statements.

**Thematic and other issues**

**Maintenance of international peace and security: implications of the coronavirus disease**

On 1 July, the Council adopted resolution [2532 \(2020\)](#) to address the consequences of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. In that resolution, the Council demanded a general and immediate cessation of hostilities, called upon all parties to armed conflicts to engage in an immediate humanitarian pause for at least 90 consecutive days and recognized the appeal by the Secretary-General for a global ceasefire.

On 2 July, the Council held an open meeting by videoconference on pandemics and security, chaired by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany, Heiko Maas, to discuss the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and pandemics in general, on issues that fall under the Council's mandate.

The Secretary-General briefed the Council on how the pandemic continued to profoundly affect peace and security around the globe. He warned of the destabilization of countries traditionally seen as stable and of the impact of the pandemic on certain countries experiencing or emerging from conflict. The Secretary-General reiterated his call for an immediate global ceasefire, welcomed the adoption of resolution [2532 \(2020\)](#) and once again urged all warring parties to silence their guns in order to create conditions that allowed for the delivery of aid, opened up space for diplomacy and brought hope to places that were the most vulnerable to the pandemic.

The Council was also briefed by the Commissioner for Social Affairs of the African Union, Almira Elfadil Mohammed Elfadil, who presented information on responses to the pandemic in Africa and measures taken by the African Union. The Commissioner highlighted the importance of international solidarity and cooperation for jointly defeating the disease and achieving global safety and security.

The third briefer, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Peter Maurer, brought to the Council's attention some essential lessons learned about pandemic responses in humanitarian settings.

The Council members agreed that the COVID-19 pandemic had resulted in a global crisis with tangible effects on existing conflicts and that the Council needed to address that crisis. All Council members emphasized that international cooperation and solidarity were needed in response to the crisis. They welcomed the adoption of resolution [2532 \(2020\)](#) and stressed the need for its swift implementation.

On 22 July, the Council held an informal interactive dialogue with representatives of the Peacebuilding Commission on the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on peacebuilding and sustaining peace in conflict-affected countries. The Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations and Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, Louise Blais, provided Council members with an update on the Commission's early efforts to respond to the pandemic and underlined its unique role in the United Nations system, as the only United Nations body mandated to play a bridging role among the United Nations principal organs. The Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, Oscar Fernandez-Taranco, provided an overview of the integrated and comprehensive activities of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Peacebuilding Fund in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Fight against terrorism**

On 1 July, the Council issued a press statement on a terrorist attack in Karachi, Pakistan. In the statement, the members of the Council condemned in the strongest terms the heinous and cowardly attack. They also expressed their deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of the victims and to the Government of Pakistan, and wished a speedy and full recovery to those who had been injured.

### **United Nations peacekeeping operations: peace operations and human rights**

On 7 July, in a meeting chaired by the Defence Minister of Germany, Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, the Council was briefed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet; the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for South Sudan and Head of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, David Shearer; and the President of Groupe LOTUS, Dismas Kitenge Senga.

The High Commissioner stressed that human rights components on the ground had important functions, such as to monitor human rights violations and build human rights capacities in close collaboration with host Governments. They also contributed to the protection mandates of United Nations missions, playing an essential role in the achievement of the overall objectives of peace operations to support political and peace processes. She commended the Group of Five for being the first subregional armed force committed to implementing a human rights compliance framework.

Mr. Shearer stressed that human rights were a core business for the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). They were one of the four pillars of its mandate and played a cross-cutting role in the entire Mission, since they were central both to peace and security and to the protection of civilians.

The President of Groupe LOTUS briefed the Council on the activities of Groupe LOTUS in cooperation with the United Nations Joint Human Rights Office of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He recommended increasing the presence and resources of the United Nations Joint Human Rights Office throughout the Democratic Republic of the Congo and providing support for the professionalization and empowerment of the military and the police, including through human rights training and screening processes.

Council members stressed the need for an integrated and whole-of-mission approach to the implementation of human rights mandates, including through the provision of the required resources. Many Member States also emphasized the importance of mission-specific predeployment and in-mission training and evaluation, including accountability. Many Council members and other Member States also emphasized the meaningful participation of uniformed women, as well as the importance of the work of protection advisers and of gender-based analysis.

**Youth, peace and security**

On 14 July, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2535 \(2020\)](#), its third resolution on youth, peace and security since 2015. In that resolution, the Council highlighted the important and positive contribution of young people to the maintenance and promotion of peace and security and to the prevention and resolution of conflicts. It placed particular emphasis on the role of young women in peace and security. Furthermore, it mandated various operative measures, in particular the development of dedicated guidance on the protection of young people, the appointment of youth focal points for the implementation of the youth, peace and security agenda and the submission by the Secretary-General of a biennial report to the Council. It also referred to the development of internal mechanisms to increase the participation of young people in Council briefings.

**Women and peace and security**

On 17 July, the Council held its annual open debate on conflict-related sexual violence, chaired by Mr. Maas. The Council was briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Pramila Patten, who introduced the recent report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence ([S/2020/487](#)), as well as the Special Envoy of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Angelina Jolie, who spoke about the special needs and challenges of children who fell victim to sexual violence. She called for more international attention to be paid to ensuring that children received the care that they needed. The Council was also briefed by two civil society representatives, Khin Ohmar and Nadia Carine Fornel Poutou. Ms. Ohmar called for accountability for crimes of sexual violence in Myanmar. Ms. Fornel Poutou briefed the Council on her work with survivors of sexual violence in the Central African Republic and called for care, justice and reparations for survivors.

Council members expressed their support for the work and mandate of the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict. They exchanged views on how to improve the implementation of the Council's 10 resolutions on women and peace and security and how to ensure that the rights and needs of survivors were respected and that perpetrators were held accountable. Many Council members also expressed support for strengthening targeted measures against perpetrators of sexual violence in States which did not fulfil their obligations under international law or their commitments made at the United Nations. A compilation of statements made by Council members and submitted by other Member States and entities under rules 37 and 39 was circulated.

**Climate and security**

On 24 July, the Council held an open debate on climate and security, chaired by Mr. Maas. The debate was co-sponsored by Belgium, the Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, the Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Viet Nam and focused on how climate change can exacerbate and prolong conflicts and increase instability. The Assistant Secretary-General for Europe, Central Asia and the Americas, Miroslav Jenča, highlighted the impact of climate-related security risks in different regions and stressed the importance of climate-sensitive conflict prevention and peacebuilding interventions. The Council was also briefed by the Director of the Centre national d'études stratégiques et de sécurité in the Niger, Mahamadou Magagi, who described how climate change contributed to migration and food insecurity and had an adverse impact on peace and security in the Sahel region. The Director of the Sustainable Pacific Consultancy in Niue, Coral Pasisi, highlighted how climate change threatened

the economic foundations, national identities and even the existence of island nations in the Pacific.

Council members called upon the Council to address the security dimension of climate change effects comprehensively and more systematically. Widespread support for the climate security agenda, encapsulated in an ambitious joint statement delivered by Nauru on behalf of the 51 States members of the Group of Friends on Climate and Security, and an announcement that an informal expert group on climate and security would be formed, show the determination of the majority of Council members and Member States to enhance the Council's response to climate-related security risks.

### **Humanitarian affairs**

On 27 July, the Council issued a press statement condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attack carried out in Borno State, Nigeria, on 22 July 2020, that resulted in the death of five humanitarian aid workers. Expressing their condolences to the families of the victims, the members of the Council reiterated that terrorism posed one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and that all States must combat it by all means, in compliance with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law.

## **Africa**

### **Guinea-Bissau**

On 1 July, the Council issued a press statement expressing its concern about the continued political and institutional crisis in Guinea-Bissau. It called upon the national authorities to take concrete steps to ensure peace, security and stability in the country by resolving the political crisis and urged the security and defence forces to remain neutral. The Council also expressed its deep concern about the threat to the people of Guinea-Bissau posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Council took note of the recognition by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) of Úmaro Sissoco Embaló as the winner of the December 2019 run-off of the presidential election.

### **West Africa and the Sahel**

On 9 July, the Council held its biannual open meeting on West Africa and the Sahel, at which the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel, Mohamed Ibn Chambas, gave a briefing on the report of the Secretary-General on recent developments in the region and on the activities of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) ([S/2020/585](#)). The Council was also briefed by the Coordinator of the Association for Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad, Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, representing civil society, on the impact of climate change on security and the livelihoods of communities in the region.

The members of the Council reiterated their full support for the work of UNOWAS and Mr. Ibn Chambas and stressed the need for continued international, regional and subregional cooperation. Council members expressed concern about the deteriorating security situation in the region, in particular condemning the spread of terrorism and organized crime. Council members recalled with deep concern the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which was exacerbating existing grievances, especially the humanitarian situation, and added an additional layer of complexity to the challenges in West Africa and the Sahel. Many Member States stressed the

security implications of climate change. Several Council members emphasized the importance of including women in decision-making and peace processes. In several statements, participants expressed concern about human rights violations in the region and stressed the need for everyone, including State actors, to respect human rights. Council members called for peaceful, inclusive and transparent elections in the upcoming presidential elections in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea and the Niger and agreed on the importance of political processes and dialogue.

On 28 July, the Council adopted a presidential statement, in which it expressed its strong support for the work of UNOWAS and Mr. Ibn Chambas and its concerns about the deteriorating security and humanitarian situation. It also reiterated its support for the Secretary-General's call for a global ceasefire.

### **South Sudan**

On 13 July, the Council issued a press statement welcoming positive developments in the peace process in South Sudan, including the adoption by the parties of the Revitalized Agreement on the allocation of states and announcement of governors. At the same time, the members of the Council expressed concern about the delays in implementing the Revitalized Agreement and urged the parties to expeditiously finalize security arrangements, establish transitional government institutions, including a national legislative assembly, and implement transitional reforms. The members of the Council further recognized the efforts of the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity to address the COVID-19 pandemic and encouraged it to continue deepening cooperation with humanitarian agencies, United Nations agencies and UNMISS in that regard.

### **Central African Republic**

On 14 July, the Council issued a press statement in which Council members condemned in the strongest terms the attack allegedly conducted by armed elements of Retour, réclamation et réhabilitation on 13 July 2020 against a convoy of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) in Gedze, Nana-Mambéré prefecture, north-western Central African Republic. As a result of the attack, one Rwandan peacekeeper died and two were injured. Council members expressed their deepest condolences and sympathy to the family of the killed peacekeeper, as well as to Rwanda and MINUSCA.

On 28 July, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2536 \(2020\)](#), by which it extended the mandate of the Central African Republic sanctions regime for a period of 12 months until 31 July 2021. It also extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts on the Central African Republic established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#) until 31 August 2021.

### **Mali**

On 27 July, the Council held consultations on Mali. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Mali and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), Mahamat Saleh Annadif, briefed Council members on the situation in Mali and recent developments concerning violent protests and the current political crisis. Members of the Council expressed their deep concern about the latest political tensions in Mali and their strong support for the mediation efforts of ECOWAS, and took note of the recommendations endorsed during the extraordinary summit of the ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government on the sociopolitical situation in Mali. Members of the Council urged the Malian parties to follow up on the recommendations without delay, prioritize dialogue and refrain from any actions likely to fuel tensions or threaten the rule of law.

Members of the Council recalled the importance of implementing the peace agreement and stabilizing the centre of the country and reiterated their support for Mr. Annadif and MINUSMA. Press elements were adopted.

## Middle East

### Syrian Arab Republic

During the month of July, the Council held various meetings on the Syrian Arab Republic.

On 7, 8, 10 and 11 July, closed meetings were held by videoconference on the extension of the monitoring mechanism established pursuant to resolution [2165 \(2014\)](#) on cross-border humanitarian access in the Syrian Arab Republic.

On 7 and 10 July, a draft resolution submitted by Belgium and Germany was not adopted because of vetoes used by two permanent members.

On 8 and 10 July, a draft resolution submitted by the Russian Federation was not adopted because affirmative votes were not cast by at least nine members.

On 10 July, two amendments by the Russian Federation and one amendment by China to the draft resolution submitted by Belgium and Germany were not adopted because affirmative votes were not cast by at least nine members.

On 11 July, the Council adopted resolution [2533 \(2020\)](#), in which it extended the mandate of the monitoring mechanism at the border crossing of Bab al-Hawa for a period of 12 months until 10 July 2021.

On 14 July, in a closed meeting by videoconference, including a briefing delivered by the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Izumi Nakamitsu, the Council discussed implementation of resolution [2118 \(2013\)](#) on the chemical weapons programme of the Syrian Arab Republic.

On 23 July, the Council was briefed by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Geir Otto Pedersen, as well as by a representative of Families for Freedom, Wafa Mustafa.

Mr. Pedersen urged the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and all other Syrian parties to unilaterally release detainees and abductees and perform meaningful actions in respect of missing persons. He informed the Council that the third session of the Syrian-led and Syrian-owned Constitutional Committee would begin in Geneva on 24 August 2020. Mr. Pedersen expressed hope that key international players would work together to achieve progress on the broader political process. He stressed that only through international dialogue would it be possible to address the numerous challenges that the Syrian Arab Republic and Syrians faced: humanitarian needs, detentions, displacement, violence and terror, economic destitution and the violation of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Ms. Mustafa called upon the Council to address the issue of detainees and missing persons. She asked for unified support for the large-scale unilateral release of all people held in prisons and unofficial detention centres and for pressure to be placed on Syrian authorities and other actors immediately to release the names of people held in all places of detention, along with their locations and conditions. She also stressed the importance of protecting civilians, defending human rights and pursuing justice.

On 29 July, the Council was briefed on the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock; as well as by the Regional Director of Syria Relief and Development, Amany Qaddour. Ms. Qaddour emphasized the need to

sustain humanitarian services, continue humanitarian access and prioritize humanitarian needs above all others. She asked the Council to do everything possible to protect aid workers, who were no less at risk of displacement, violence or insecurity.

## Libya

On 8 July, Council members held an open meeting by videoconference on the situation in Libya. Six months after the Berlin Conference on Libya, requests under rules 37 and 39 had been received from Ministers for Foreign Affairs and senior officials of the following Member States and regional organizations involved in the Berlin process: Algeria, Congo, Egypt, Italy, Netherlands, Switzerland, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, African Union, European Union and League of Arab States. The President had also granted rule 37 requests submitted by the following interested or neighbouring Member States: Chad, Greece, Morocco, Qatar and Sudan. The Secretary-General gave a briefing on the situation in Libya, welcoming the meeting as an opportunity for parties to recommit themselves to the pledges made in Berlin, while expressing grave concern over unprecedented levels of foreign interference, increased military build-up and attacks on health staff and facilities amid the spread of COVID-19, and highlighting the role of the United Nations system and the International Criminal Court in promoting accountability and the rule of law. The Secretary-General also expressed concern at the situation of internally displaced persons, migrants and asylum seekers, as well as at the ongoing oil blockade, and highlighted the important contribution of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) to the achievement of a lasting ceasefire and the promotion of a political solution in Libya.

Participants expressed concern at the escalating conflict and its humanitarian impact, aggravated by the spread of COVID-19, and called for a continuation of the ceasefire negotiations by the 5+5 Joint Military Commission. They also highlighted the need for all parties to respect the arms embargo, stressing that there would never be a military solution to the conflict. Moreover, they expressed their appreciation for the work of UNSMIL and the Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Libya and Head of UNSMIL, Stephanie Williams, while some Member States also called for the post of the Special Representative to be filled immediately. Some Member States also expressed their support for the establishment of a demilitarized zone along the Sirte and Jufrah front lines and welcomed suggestions from the Secretary-General about prospective support from UNSMIL to that end.

## Yemen

On 14 July, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2534 \(2020\)](#), by which it extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA) for 12 months until 15 July 2021. The Council requested the Secretary-General to provide a review of UNMHA at least one month before its mandate was set to expire.

On 15 July, the Council was briefed by Mr. Lowcock and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, Inger Andersen, on the status of the decaying oil tanker, *FSO Safer*, which was floating off the western coast of Yemen in Houthi-controlled territory.

Ms. Andersen and Mr. Lowcock highlighted the severe ecological, economic and humanitarian consequences for Yemen and the region if the tanker further eroded and the oil spilled into the Red Sea. They confirmed that a United Nations technical team stood ready to perform the assessments necessary and that the Houthi leadership had provided written consent regarding access to the tanker.



On 28 July, the Council held an open meeting by videoconference, followed by closed consultations. Council members were briefed by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen, Martin Griffiths, and Mr. Lowcock. In addition, the General Coordinator of Médecins du Monde in Yemen, Wafa'a al-Saidy, and the Chair of the Arab Human Rights Foundation, Raja Almasabi, both civil society representatives, were invited to discuss the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the health system in Yemen and the situation of persons with disabilities in the conflict, respectively. During the closed meeting by videoconference, the Chair of the Redeployment Coordination Committee, Abhijit Guha, briefed the Council.

### **Situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question**

On 21 July, during the quarterly open debate on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, the Council was briefed by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, Nickolay Mladenov; the President of the US/Middle East Project, Daniel Levy; and the professor of political science and Director of the Palestinian Centre for Policy and Survey Research, Khalil Shikaki.

Mr. Mladenov said that Palestinians and Israelis were grappling with a complex and potentially destabilizing three-pronged crisis: an escalating health crisis, a spiralling economic crisis and mounting political confrontations driven by the threat of the Israeli annexation of parts of the occupied West Bank and the steps taken by the Palestinian leadership in response. He stressed that the opportunity presented by the current crises must be used to move forward and resume the path towards a negotiated two-State solution, on the basis of a just and sustainable resolution to the conflict, in line with relevant United Nations resolutions, bilateral agreements and international law.

Mr. Levy called for the creation of conditions conducive to future progress, so that Palestinians and Israelis alike could enjoy equality, dignity and security. Mr. Shikaki said that, despite despair and pessimism about the future, the Palestinian public and the Israeli public were not impediments to peace, and, with the right leadership and incentives, could be brought to support a shared vision of peace, based on a two-State solution.

The Permanent Representative of Israel and the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine also delivered statements to the Council.

## **Latin America and the Caribbean**

### **Colombia**

On 14 July, the Council discussed the situation in Colombia and the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia (S/2020/603). The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Colombia and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, Carlos Ruiz Massieu, briefed the Council on recent developments. The members of the Council reiterated their full and unanimous support for the peace process in Colombia and reaffirmed their commitment to working closely with Colombia to support the comprehensive implementation of the Final Agreement for Ending the Conflict and Building a Stable and Lasting Peace. They welcomed the continued commitment of both parties to that end and expressed strong support for complementary efforts by the Mission and the country team.

The Council received a briefing by a representative of the Association of Afro-Colombian Women of Northern Cauca, Clemencia Carabalí. Council members

reiterated their serious concern about continued threats, attacks and killings targeting human rights defenders and social leaders, including women leaders and those from indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities, as well as those targeting former members of the Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia-Ejército del Pueblo (FARC-EP). Such attacks had persisted in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 16 July, the Council adopted a press statement commending the resilience of Colombians in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Council welcomed efforts by the parties to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on peace and stressed the importance of implementing all aspects of the Agreement, including with regard to rural reform, political participation, countering illicit drugs, such as through crop substitution programmes, and transitional justice.

## **Asia**

### **Central Asia**

On 6 July, the Council held a closed meeting by videoconference for its biannual consultations on the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, Natalia Gherman, briefed the Council on the responses in Central Asia to the COVID-19 pandemic, regional cooperation, transboundary water resource governance, climate and security, counter-terrorism and human rights. The Council did not agree on press elements after the meeting.

## **Europe**

### **Cyprus**

On 16 July, before closed consultations on the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), Council members and troop- and police-contributing countries engaged in closed discussions. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Cyprus and Head of UNFICYP, Elizabeth Spehar, briefed the Council and the troop- and police-contributing countries on the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus ([S/2020/682](#)) and on his mission of good offices in Cyprus ([S/2020/685](#)). Representatives of troop- and police-contributing countries and Council members expressed support for the work of Ms. Spehar, in particular with regard to her initiative in support of the establishment of direct military contacts.

On 20 July, the Council discussed the situation in Cyprus and the two reports of the Secretary-General. Ms. Spehar briefed the Council on both reports and on recent developments.

Council members expressed support for extending the mandate of UNFICYP and called for a swift return to the political process in order to reach a settlement based on a bizonal and bicomunal federation, and political equality, as set out in the relevant Security Council resolutions to which both parties had recommitted after the meeting with the Secretary-General in Berlin in November 2019. Council members expressed support for the efforts of the Secretary-General and his good offices mission in that regard.

On 28 July, the Council adopted resolution [2537 \(2020\)](#), by which it extended the mandate of UNFICYP until 31 January 2021.