



## Security Council

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### **Letter dated 22 December 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council**

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 2559 (2020), related to the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan” and adopted on 22 December 2020. Resolution 2559 (2020) was adopted in accordance with the voting procedure set out in the letter by the President of the Security Council dated 27 March 2020 (S/2020/253), a procedure agreed in the light of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease pandemic.

Pursuant to that procedure, I enclose herewith copies of the related documents:

My letter dated 21 December 2020, addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council (see annex 1), putting to the vote the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/1270 (see enclosure to annex 1);

Letters received in reply from Security Council members indicating their national positions on the draft resolution (see annexes 2 to 16).

Statements subsequently submitted by Security Council members providing their explanations of vote (see annexes 17 to 20).

This letter and its enclosures will be issued as a document of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* Jerry Matthews **Matjila**  
President of the Security Council



## Annex 1

### **Letter dated 21 December 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council**

In accordance with the procedure agreed upon by the members of the Security Council in the light of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease pandemic, as set out in the letter dated 27 March 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the members of the Council (S/2020/253), I would like to draw your attention to the following.

The members of the Council have discussed a draft resolution, submitted by Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”. That draft resolution, contained in document S/2020/1270 and enclosed herein, has been put into blue.

In my capacity as President of the Security Council, I hereby put the above-mentioned draft resolution to a vote. The non-extendable 24-hour voting period for this draft resolution will begin at 4 p.m. on Monday, 21 December 2020. The non-extendable 24-hour voting period will expire at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, 22 December 2020.

Please submit your vote (in favour, against or abstain) on the draft resolution, as well as your possible explanation of vote, by sending a letter signed by the Permanent Representative or Chargé d'affaires a.i. within the non-extendable 24-hour voting period set out above to the Officer-in-charge of the Security Council Affairs Division in the United Nations Secretariat ([sutterlin@un.org](mailto:sutterlin@un.org)).

It is my intention to circulate a letter listing the outcome of the vote within three hours of the conclusion of the 24-hour voting period. I also intend to convene a video-teleconference of the Security Council to announce the outcome of the vote shortly after the conclusion of the voting period, on the afternoon of Tuesday, 22 December 2020.

*(Signed)* Jerry Matthews **Matjila**  
President of the Security Council

Enclosure

United Nations

S/2020/1270



## Security Council

Provisional  
21 December 2020

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### Germany and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

*The Security Council,*

*Reaffirming* all its previous resolutions and presidential statements concerning the situation in Sudan and underlining the importance of full compliance with and implementation of these,

*Reaffirming* its strong commitment to the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of Sudan and its determination to work with the Government of Sudan, in full respect of its sovereignty, to assist in tackling the various challenges in Sudan,

*Reaffirming* the primary responsibility of the Government of Sudan to protect civilians across its territory, *acknowledging* in this regard the Government of Sudan's National Plan for Civilian Protection (S/2020/429) *and taking note* of the commitment of the Government of Sudan, as expressed in the letter of the Permanent Representative of Sudan of 21 May 2020 (S/2020/429), to assume full responsibility for the protection of its civilian citizens, to comply strictly with all international standards for the protection of civilians, including proactive monitoring and anticipation, increased army and judicial police deployment, and community protection, and to facilitate humanitarian assistance, including through full and unhindered humanitarian access and ensuring the safety and security of humanitarian personnel,

*Emphasizing* the need for the orderly and safe drawdown of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur's (UNAMID) military and police components in line with United Nations best practice,

*Expressing its deep appreciation* for the work of UNAMID in Sudan and its overall contribution to the maintenance of peace and security in Darfur since its establishment in 2007, *commending* the contribution of troop- and police-contributing countries to UNAMID, and *underlining* the importance of the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union in Sudan,

*Expressing* its support for a seamless transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding in Darfur, and in this respect *underscoring* the importance of close collaboration between UNAMID and the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) and its integrated United Nations

Country Team (UNCT) based on good practices in relation to the transition from peacekeeping operations to special political missions,

*Encouraging* the Secretary-General to increase swiftly the capacity of UNITAMS to provide effective assistance, within its mandate, to the Government of Sudan,

*Welcoming* the signing of the Juba Peace Agreement in Juba on 3 October 2020 by the Government of Sudan, the Sudan Revolutionary Front and the Sudan Liberation Movement-Minni Minawi, *congratulating* Sudan and its people for this historic achievement, which represents a significant opportunity for comprehensive and sustainable peace in Sudan and an important milestone of the transition period towards a peaceful, stable, democratic and prosperous future for Sudan, *commending* the parties to the negotiations for their political will and commitment, and also *welcoming* the role of the Government of South Sudan in facilitating the negotiations,

*Encouraging* the signatories of the peace agreement to begin swiftly the process of implementation, particularly of key provisions of the agreement pertaining to security arrangements and addressing the root causes of conflict in Darfur and the Two Areas and to ensure the full, effective and meaningful participation of women in its implementation, *urging* the armed movements that have forces in Libya, as documented by both the United Nations Panels of Experts for Libya and for Sudan, to withdraw them immediately, and *noting* that the peace agreement provides for a specific role for the United Nations in supporting the implementation of its provisions,

*Urging* those who have yet to join the peace process with the Government of Sudan to do so immediately, constructively and without pre-conditions in order to conclude swiftly negotiations on a comprehensive peace agreement, and *calling upon* all international actors to continue encouraging non-participatory parties in this regard,

*Taking note* of the Special Report of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General of the United Nations (S/2020/1115), in particular the recommendation that UNAMID's mandate be terminated by 31 December 2020 and the estimate that the environmental clean-up, the removal of UNAMID's footprint and the repatriation from closed locations of staff, troops and police will take an estimated six months, subject to COVID-19 and the rainy season, and *underscoring* that a reasonable time will be required for the liquidation of UNAMID following its withdrawal,

*Taking note* of the African Union Peace and Security Council's Communiqué of 30 November 2020 (PSC/PR/COMM. (CMLXVIII)),

*Acknowledging* the views expressed by the Government of Sudan regarding the future of UNAMID during the consultations between the Government of Sudan, the United Nations and the African Union in Khartoum between 22 and 25 October 2020, as documented, inter alia, in the abovementioned Special Report,

1. *Decides* to terminate the mandate of UNAMID as of 31 December 2020;
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to commence the drawdown of UNAMID personnel on 1 January 2021 and to complete the withdrawal of all uniformed and civilian UNAMID personnel by 30 June 2021, other than those required for the mission's liquidation;
3. *Decides* to authorise, for the duration of UNAMID's drawdown and liquidation, the retention of a guard unit from within UNAMID's existing footprint to protect UNAMID's personnel, facilities and assets;

4. *Urges* the Government of Sudan to fully and swiftly implement the National Plan for Civilian Protection (S/2020/429) and to protect civilians in Darfur in accordance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law and *underscores* the need to build confidence of local communities in the ability of the rule of law institutions to deliver justice, ensure accountability and provide legal protection to vulnerable communities, including displaced persons, women, youth, and other marginalised groups;

5. *Requests* the Government of Sudan to fully respect all provisions of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) of 9 February 2008 until the departure of the final element of UNAMID from Sudan, in particular the provisions relating to the safety and security of UNAMID which inter alia stipulates that the Government of Sudan shall take all appropriate measures to ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of UNAMID, its members and associated personnel and their property and assets, and shall take all appropriate steps to protect members of UNAMID and its associated personnel and their equipment and premises;

6. *Calls upon* the Government of Sudan, at all levels, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and the African Union during UNAMID's drawdown and liquidation in order to ensure the orderly and safe withdrawal of the mission, in line with the agreed outcome of the 28th Tripartite Coordination Mechanism (TCM) meeting on UNAMID on 25 October 2020, and in particular by granting unimpeded access by the United Nations to UNAMID premises until an agreed handover, ensuring full freedom of movement of UNAMID, its personnel and its contractors as well as of their vehicles and aircrafts, unimpeded redeployment of UNAMID's equipment, supplies and other assets within Sudan, the unimpeded export by the United Nations of its equipment, supplies and other assets, and the continued granting of visas for personnel required for the drawdown and liquidation of UNAMID, and *noting* that in implementing UNAMID's drawdown and liquidation the United Nations will comply with general United Nations practices and financial regulations;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Government of Sudan, via TCM, to assess on a regular basis the progress of drawdown and withdrawal and act as a clearing-house to address any issues that might arise in this context;

8. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to continue and expedite transition planning and management in accordance with the established policies, directives and best practices in order to ensure that the transition from UNAMID to UNITAMS is phased, sequenced and efficient, and *further reiterates* in this regard, that UNAMID and UNITAMS should continue to closely cooperate via the established coordination mechanism to determine the modalities and timelines for the transition of responsibilities where the two missions have common strategic objectives and priorities in Darfur and to ensure close coordination and cooperation, information and analysis sharing, and to maximise synergies, leverage resources and prevent the duplication of efforts;

9. *Calls on* UNAMID to establish with the United Nations Country Team, as part of the UNAMID transition and drawdown process, appropriate arrangements enabling the United Nations Country Team to oversee the residual activities of programmatic cooperation which was initiated by UNAMID in 2020 but which has not yet completed implementation due to the COVID-19 pandemic, to ensure a smooth transition of peacebuilding support and support for capacity development of the Government of Sudan in Darfur;

10. *Further reiterates* its requests to UNAMID to ensure that team sites and assets are handed over in line with general United Nations practices and financial

regulations, taking all practical steps and precautions to ensure the assets are safely transferred to the control of the designated entity, and *calls upon* UNAMID and the Government of Sudan to finalise swiftly a revised framework agreement which ensures the principle of civilian end-use and the security and physical integrity of the handed-over UNAMID team sites and assets that will not be used by UNITAMS and its integrated United Nations Country Team partners;

11. *Acknowledges* the Government of Sudan's commitment, in line with United Nations rules and regulations, to use handed-over UNAMID team sites exclusively for civilian end-user purposes, and urges the Government of Sudan to ensure that UNAMID team sites previously handed-over and team sites that will be handed over in the future are utilised to this effect;

12. *Further reiterates* its call upon the Government of Sudan to swiftly conclude its ongoing investigations into looting of previously handed-over UNAMID team sites, and further *calls upon* the Government of Sudan to continue to hold accountable individuals who participated in such looting incidents;

13. *Requests* UNAMID, member states and the Government of Sudan to take all appropriate steps to protect the safety, security and health of all UNAMID personnel, in line with resolution 2518 (2020), including by allowing medical evacuations, in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 during the course of UNAMID's drawdown and withdrawal;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Security Council regularly informed about the all relevant developments in relation with the drawdown and withdrawal of UNAMID as an annex to the regular reporting requested on UNITAMS in resolution 2524 (2020), and an oral briefing by 31 July 2021 on the completion of UNAMID's drawdown and closure;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Security Council with an assessment on lessons learned from the experience of UNAMID no later than 31 October 2021;

16. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

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**Annex 2****Letter dated 22 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I refer to the letter dated 21 December 2020 from the President of the Security Council relating to draft resolution S/2020/1270 under the agenda item entitled “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”.

In accordance with the procedure set forth for the adoption of draft resolutions under the current extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease pandemic, I am pleased to indicate that Belgium votes in favour of this draft resolution. At this stage, my delegation does not intend to deliver an explanation of vote.

*(Signed)* Philippe **Kridelka**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations

**Annex 3**

**Letter dated 21 December 2020 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I would like to thank you, Sir, and your team for the strong support in facilitating the voting procedure.

Please be kindly informed that China votes in favour of draft resolution S/2020/1270, submitted by Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”.

*(Signed)* **Dai Bing**

Ambassador

Deputy Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations



**Annex 4****Letter dated 21 December 2020 from the Special Envoy to the Security Council of the Dominican Republic addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I refer to your letter dated 21 December 2020, regarding the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/1270 under the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”.

Upon instructions from my Government, the delegation of the Dominican Republic votes in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution.

*(Signed)* José **Singer Weisinger**  
Ambassador

Special Envoy to the Security Council of the Dominican Republic

**Annex 5**

**Letter dated 22 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, my delegation votes in favour of the draft resolution submitted by Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland regarding the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur, contained in document S/2020/1270.

*(Signed)* **Sven Jürgenson**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations

**Annex 6****Letter dated 22 December 2020 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

[Original: French]

I refer to the letter dated 21 December 2020 calling on the members of the Security Council to vote on the draft resolution submitted by Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”, put into blue under the symbol S/2020/1270. France votes in favour.

(Signed) **Nathalie Broadhurst Estival**

Ambassador

Deputy Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations

## Annex 7

### **Letter dated 22 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

It is my honour to write to you in response to the letter from the President of the Security Council dated 21 December 2020 initiating a written voting procedure in line with the agreement reached among the members of the Security Council.

The vote of the Federal Republic of Germany on the draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Federal Republic of Germany in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan” and as contained in document S/2020/1270 is as follows.

The Federal Republic of Germany votes in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution. Please find attached an explanation of vote in this regard (annex 17).

*(Signed)* **Christoph Heusgen**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations

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**Annex 8****Letter dated 21 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I am writing in reference to the letter dated 21 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations, in his capacity as the President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution for the withdrawal of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (S/2020/1270).

I hereby indicate that Indonesia votes in favour of the said draft resolution.

*(Signed)* Dian Triansyah **Djani**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Indonesia  
to the United Nations

## Annex 9

### **Letter dated 21 December 2020 from the Chargé d'affaires of the Niger to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I am writing in response to the letter dated 21 December 2020 from the President of the Security Council, calling on the members of the Council to vote on the draft resolution (S/2020/1270) submitted by Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with the agenda item "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan".

In accordance with the agreed temporary procedures for the adoption of draft resolutions during the coronavirus disease pandemic restrictions, I have the honour to indicate that the Republic of the Niger votes in favour of the said draft resolution.

*(Signed)* Niandou **Aougi**  
Minister Counsellor  
Chargé d'affaires of the Niger to the United Nations

**Annex 10****Letter dated 22 December 2020 from the First Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 21 December 2020, on the beginning of the voting procedure for the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan” (S/2020/1270).

In accordance with the procedure for the adoption of draft resolutions of the Security Council being in place for the duration of the restrictions on movement in New York due to the coronavirus disease pandemic outlined in a letter dated 27 March 2020 from the President of the Security Council (S/2020/253), I have the honour to inform you that the Russian Federation votes in favour of the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/1270.

*(Signed)* Dmitry A. Polyanskiy

Ambassador

First Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the  
United Nations

## Annex 11

### **Letter dated 22 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to refer to the draft resolution (S/2020/1270) submitted by Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”.

In that respect, I wish to inform you that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines votes in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution.

*(Signed)* Inga Rhonda **King**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
to the United Nations



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**Annex 12****Letter dated 21 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I refer to your letter dated 21 December 2020 regarding the draft resolution submitted by Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”, contained in document S/2020/1270.

The delegation of the Republic of South Africa votes in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution.

(Signed) Jerry Matthews **Matjila**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations

## Annex 13

### **Letter dated 21 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

Further to the letter dated 21 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution submitted by Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”, as contained in document S/2020/1270, I would like to inform you that Tunisia votes in favour of that draft resolution.

*(Signed)* Tarek **Ladeb**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations

**Annex 14****Letter dated 21 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

With reference to the letter from the President of the Security Council dated 21 December 2020, the United Kingdom votes in favour of the draft resolution (S/2020/1270) in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”.

*(Signed)* Barbara **Woodward**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and  
Northern Ireland to the United Nations

**Annex 15**

**Letter dated 21 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

On the draft resolution submitted by Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan” (S/2020/1270), the United States of America votes in favour.

(signed) **Kelly Craft**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the  
United Nations

**Annex 16****Letter dated 22 December 2020 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

In reference to the letter from the President of the Security Council dated 21 December 2020 relating to the draft resolution under the agenda item entitled “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”, as contained in document S/2020/1270, I would like to hereby inform you that Viet Nam votes in favour of said draft resolution.

*(Signed)* **Pham Hai Anh**  
Ambassador  
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Viet Nam to the United Nations

**Annex 17****Statement by the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations**

In 2007, the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), the first joint African Union and United Nations peacekeeping mission, was deployed in order to protect civilians and humanitarian operations and help bring stability to the war-torn Darfur region of the Sudan. Today, more than 13 years later, the Security Council will close the chapter of peacekeeping in Darfur, as the Sudan continues to make progress in its democratic transition.

The draft resolution presented to the Security Council by the penholders, the United Kingdom and Germany, and just adopted as resolution 2559 (2020), lays out the modalities of UNAMID's drawdown for a period of six months, followed by a subsequent liquidation period. It will provide a legal basis for a safe and orderly withdrawal and help ensure a smooth transition as the Government of the Sudan assumes full responsibility for the protection of civilians in Darfur.

The penholders have engaged extensively with the Government of the Sudan before and during the negotiations. We are convinced that resolution 2559 (2020) is fully in line with the requests of the Government of the Sudan, as well as the recommendations of the African Union-United Nations joint special report on terminating UNAMID's mandate as of 31 December 2020 and subsequently commencing the mission's drawdown and liquidation. We welcome the Government of the Sudan's commitment to fully cooperating with the United Nations during this period.

However, we regret that the mission will not be able to continue to complete the remainder of its tasks, as is — and should remain — established practice during the drawdown of peacekeeping missions. With the end of UNAMID's mandate, the Government of the Sudan must be ready to fill the gap left by the departure of the mission. While the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in the Sudan will assist the authorities, it is not designed to replace UNAMID in terms of providing physical protection. Germany therefore urges the Sudanese Government to expedite its preparations for protecting civilians in line with its own national plan for civilian protection (see S/2020/429).

We would like to thank all Council members for their constructive engagement on the text of the draft resolution. We also thank the United Kingdom for its excellent cooperation as fellow penholder on the Sudan file during Germany's tenure as a non-permanent member of the Security Council over the past two years. Most of all, our gratitude goes to the brave mission staff of UNAMID, who have done their utmost to assist the people of the Sudan in their quest for durable peace.

**Annex 18****Statement by the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations, Dian Triansyah Djani**

Indonesia welcomes the adoption of the resolution 2559 (2020) on the withdrawal of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID).

We commend the penholders, Germany and the United Kingdom, for their efforts aimed at reaching consensus. We also commend the Council's unity in supporting the Sudan in this transition.

Indonesia voted in favour of resolution 2559 (2020), as we are confident that the Sudan is ready to embark on a new chapter in which the country will move towards peace, stability and prosperity. In this regard, we welcome the fact that the Security Council, through resolution 2559 (2020), emphasizes the importance of the Sudan's national ownership of its transition while fully respecting the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Resolution 2559 (2020) leaves no room for misinterpretation on the logistics of the drawdown or on the Sudan's leading role in this transition. As one of the largest troop- and police-contributing countries in UNAMID and a current member of the Security Council, Indonesia is honoured to have served in UNAMID along with other United Nations members and the States members of the African Union.

We welcome the responsible withdrawal of UNAMID on 31 December 2020, followed by a six-month cleaning-up period. This withdrawal should be conducted while ensuring the safety, security and well-being of all peacekeepers and staff serving in UNAMID.

The challenges in the Sudan's transition call for all parties to ensure that all of the progress made in the country be sustained and further enhanced. We are confident that with support from the international community and countries of the region, the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in the Sudan will be able to fulfil its role in advising, assisting and supporting the Government of the Sudan, including in the implementation of its national plan for civilian protection (see S/2020/429).

Finally, allow me to close my statement by once again congratulating the Sudan as it embarks on a new chapter of its journey. Rest assured that Indonesia remains committed to supporting the Sudan on the road towards everlasting peace and prosperity.

**Annex 19****Statement by the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations, Barbara Woodward**

The United Kingdom welcomes the adoption of resolution 2559 (2020), which outlines the modalities of an orderly and safe withdrawal of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). With the adoption of this resolution, the Security Council has reaffirmed the importance of the safety and security of peacekeepers and further advanced the transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding in Darfur. However, we regret that it was not possible to adopt a more prudent resolution — one that would have enabled UNAMID to continue to provide support to the Government of the Sudan and the people of Darfur during its drawdown, in line with recent Security Council precedent on the closure of United Nations peacekeeping missions.

United Nations peacekeeping missions in Haiti, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Timor-Leste all had mandates until the end of their drawdowns. The position of the Government of the Sudan, the recommendation of the United Nations and the African Union and subsequently the position adopted by some members of the Security Council prevented the Council from following this precedent. UNAMID's mandate will therefore end on 31 December, despite the fact that approximately 7,000 uniformed personnel and 900 civilian staff remain on the ground in Darfur. All they will be able to do is pack their bags and wait to leave the region.

Given the size and location of UNAMID within the Sudan, the mission's withdrawal will be unlike any recent United Nations peacekeeping closure. This enormous logistical challenge is likely to be further complicated by the ongoing coronavirus disease pandemic. Furthermore, there is a troubling precedent of the looting of handed-over UNAMID team sites and assets, which rendered them useless to the local authorities and the people of Darfur.

The Government of the Sudan requested the termination of UNAMID's mandate. It now has a responsibility at both the national and local levels to cooperate fully with the United Nations and the African Union during UNAMID's drawdown and liquidation. The United Kingdom urges the Government to take all steps necessary to ensure that UNAMID, its personnel and their contingent-owned equipment can depart from Darfur in an orderly and safe manner. We also call upon the Government of the Sudan to ensure the security of handed-over UNAMID team sites that will not be used by the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in the Sudan (UNITAMS) or its integrated country team and, in line with existing agreements, ensure their utilization exclusively for civilian end-user purposes to benefit the people of Darfur.

In the light of the termination of UNAMID's mandate, the responsibility for security — and specifically for protecting civilians in Darfur — now rests solely with the Government of the Sudan. As recent spikes of violence in Darfur highlight, this will not be an easy undertaking. The United Kingdom welcomes the Government of the Sudan's strong commitment to fully assuming its responsibilities and urges them to swiftly implement their national plan for civilian protection (see S/2020/429). In addition, we urge all parties to uphold all their commitments in the recently agreed Juba peace agreement and ensure its full implementation. Once fully operational, UNITAMS will be able to play an important role in supporting the Sudanese authorities to build their civilian-protection capacities. In this regard, we call on the Government of the Sudan to cooperate fully with the United Nations



as it seeks to swiftly operationalize UNITAMS and ensure that its transition from UNAMID is sustainable.

While resolution 2559 (2020) sets a clear path for the orderly and safe withdrawal of UNAMID and the transition to UNITAMS, we do not believe that it should set a precedent for future peacekeeping withdrawals. The United Kingdom hopes, where possible, the Council — and the United Nations — can return to the former best practice of providing peacekeeping missions with mandates until the completion of their withdrawals as a means to ensuring safe and sustainable transitions from peacekeeping to peacebuilding.

**Annex 20****Statement by the Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations**

When the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) was established in 2007, it was the largest peacekeeping operation of its kind. It was also the only peacekeeping operation led jointly by the African Union and United Nations.

Over 10 years later, today we mark the end of UNAMID as well as the end of an era. The United States recognizes the contributions and leadership of the United Nations and the African Union, as well as of the many troop- and police-contributing countries that helped protect civilians and advance peace in Darfur. We also recognize the 288 UNAMID personnel who have paid the ultimate price in advancing peace and security for the region and the world. We will always honour their sacrifices and those of their families.

While UNAMID experienced many challenges, we have no doubt it is leaving behind a safer and more peaceful Darfur. UNAMID's contributions to strengthening the Sudanese police and providing a voice for Darfuris in peace negotiations will continue to yield benefits over the long term. UNAMID's State liaison functions, which worked to transfer rule-of-law and peacebuilding activities from the mission to the United Nations country team, now serve as a model for peace and conflict transitions around the world. We look forward to the United Nations Secretariat's assessment of the lessons learned from UNAMID to further guide United Nations peacekeeping mission transitions moving forward.

Despite UNAMID's achievements, the United States recognizes that the conflict in Darfur is not over. The Juba Agreement for Peace in the Sudan is a key pillar in building a more inclusive governance structure in the Sudan, yet it does not include the Sudanese Liberation Army-Abdul Wahid faction, which continues to hold territory in Darfur. Fighting also continues in the Jebel Marra region, and over 1.8 million people remain displaced across Darfur. Many of these displaced persons live in camps where Sudanese authorities provide little or no security or support services. A generation has been born and raised in these camps, and these people deserve a better future.

We strongly urge the Government of the Sudan to cooperate with UNAMID as the mission draws down. Even though UNAMID will cease all operations effective 31 December, the mission needs time and the continued ability to move freely throughout its current operational area in Darfur in order to remove its equipment and personnel from the 18 remaining team sites. UNAMID and the Sudanese authorities must also take the time needed to ensure that UNAMID team sites are handed over responsibly and that proper precautions are in place to avoid the problems with looting seen previously. Once they are handed over, the sites should be used for civilian purposes only, such as universities or training centres. All efforts should be made to ensure the security of these sites and their associated property and equipment.

As conflicts continue in Darfur, the Sudanese authorities are now fully responsible for protecting civilians and preventing violent incidents from beginning in the first place. While we welcome the Government of the Sudan's national plan for civilian protection (see S/2020/429), we strongly urge the Sudanese authorities to step up the Plan's implementation, particularly with regard to developing community policing initiatives for displaced persons in Darfur.

We also call on the Sudanese leaders to be fully transparent about the proposed members of the new joint security force to enable vetting and ensure exclusion

of individuals responsible for human rights violations or abuses, or violations of international humanitarian law. The Sudanese leaders must also ensure that all such abuses or violations are investigated whether they date back to the early days of the conflict or are more recent, and that those responsible are brought to justice. For true lasting peace, there must be accountability.

We look forward to learning how the United Nations Interim Transition Assistance Mission in the Sudan — the new special political mission — can and will support the Sudan in protecting civilians and building trust between Darfuris and the new joint force.

Since 2007, our Governments and many others contributed significantly to UNAMID. Our combined contributions require continued vigilance and monitoring to ensure that the Sudan upholds its responsibilities as UNAMID draws down, most notably in terms of its responsibility to protect civilians.

The United States stands with the people of Darfur and the Sudan at this momentous time. We remain a steadfast partner in support of peace and security in the region.

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