

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 15 April 2025 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of China in February 2025 (see annex).*

The document was prepared by the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations, following consultations with other members of the Security Council.

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

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

* Circulated in the language of submission only in line with current liquidity management measures.



Annex to the letter dated 15 April 2025 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of the People's Republic of China (February 2025)

Introduction

During the month of February 2025, the Security Council held a total of 17 formal meetings, including 1 open debate, 12 briefings and 4 adoptions, along with 10 in-person consultations. Four resolutions were adopted. The Council discussed wide-ranging issues, including the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Europe and a few thematic issues, inter alia. The signature event of the presidency was an open debate on the theme “Maintenance of international peace and security: practising multilateralism, reforming and improving global governance”.

In accordance with United Nations practice, China began its presidency with the presentation of the provisional programme of work of the Security Council for the month, which was adopted at the Council's closed consultations on 3 February. Thereafter, the President of the Council gave briefings to the press and to all United Nations members on the work of the Council in February, respectively. On 28 February, the President of the Council held a wrap-up session for all United Nations members on the activities of the Council in February.

Thematic and other issues

Maintenance of international peace and security

On 18 February, the Security Council held a high-level open debate themed “Practising multilateralism, reforming and improving global governance” under the agenda item “Maintenance of international peace and security”. Wang Yi, Member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs of China, in his capacity as the President of the Council, chaired the meeting. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres, gave a briefing to the Council. More than 100 Member States and organizations, including a number of foreign ministers and high-level representatives, attended the meeting and delivered remarks.

The Secretary-General recalled that the United Nations was born out of the ashes of the Second World War and pointed out that the United Nations remained the essential, one-of-a-kind meeting ground to advance peace, sustainable development and human rights. He stressed the demand for multilateral solutions to global challenges and pointed out that the Pact for the Future put forward concrete solutions to strengthen the machinery of peace and advance coordination with regional organizations. He emphasized that multilateralism, as the beating heart of the United Nations, could become an even more powerful instrument of peace.

In the ensuing debate, representatives emphasized the importance of upholding multilateralism, strengthening the role of the United Nations and enhancing international solidarity and cooperation. They stressed the urgent need to update the United Nations, founded 80 years ago, and many conveyed the need for reforms to the Security Council itself and to the global economic order to better address the multifaceted twenty-first-century challenges.

Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

On 10 February, the Security Council held an open briefing on counter-terrorism, focusing on the twentieth report of the Secretary-General on the threat posed by ISIL (Da'esh) to international peace and security and the range of United Nations efforts in support of Member States in countering the threat ([S/2025/72](#)). The Under-Secretary-General of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, Vladimir Voronkov, and the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, Natalia Gherman, gave briefings to the Council.

The Under-Secretary-General of the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate outlined the global terrorism landscape over the previous six months, emphasizing the risk of the terrorist groups exploiting the volatile situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and expressing concerns over the humanitarian and security crisis in camps and detention facilities in north-eastern Syrian Arab Republic. They underscored that Da'esh and its affiliates continued to increase their focus on activities in Africa, threatening security and sustainable development across the African continent. The Under-Secretary-General further highlighted that Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant-Khorasan (ISIL-K) continued to pose the predominant terrorist threat in Afghanistan, the region and beyond.

Security Council members expressed concern over the adaptive evolution of terrorism, noting the exploitation of regional instability and emerging technologies by the terrorist groups. Council members shared views on various aspects of combating terrorism, including promoting counter-terrorism collaboration, tackling conditions conducive to terrorism and ensuring that counter-terrorism measures are in line with international law.

United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: Police Commissioners

On 27 February, the Security Council held a briefing under the agenda item "United Nations Peacekeeping Operations: Police Commissioners". The Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations Jean-Pierre Lacroix, the United Nations Police Adviser, Faisal Shahkar, the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) Police Commissioner, Christophe Bizimungu, and the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) Senior Police Adviser, Xu Mingzhu, gave briefings to the Council.

The Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations highlighted that United Nations police are critical to sustaining peace, operating in increasingly difficult conditions, in the face of organized crime, corruption, human rights violations and weak institutions. He noted that the gap between peacekeeping mandates and operational realities had grown, stating that efforts under the Action for Peacekeeping Plus initiative had helped narrow it, thus improving the effectiveness of police components in the United Nations missions. He also emphasized the importance of technology and innovation in peacekeeping, which had helped enhance situational awareness and coordination across missions. The United Nations Police Adviser highlighted the work of the United Nations police in making a tangible difference in host countries through strengthening local capacity-building and reinforcing the rule of law. Mr. Bizimungu showcased the role of MINUSCA police in stepping up efforts to enhance security ahead of the 2025 elections in the Central African Republic, supporting local security forces in preventing violent acts during the elections, in particular violence against women. Ms. Mingzhu gave a briefing to the Security Council on the role of the Mission's police in preventing violence and building trust, in particular through enhanced cooperation between the Cyprus Police and the Turkish Cypriot police.

Security Council members emphasized the necessity of optimizing the mandates of the United Nations police based on the specific needs of peacekeeping operations, so as to give full play to the role of the United Nations police in protecting civilians, maintaining public order, preventing conflicts and rebuilding local law enforcement. Many Council members reiterated that Member States, United Nations missions and the United Nations Secretariat should strengthen their coordination and cooperation to meet the growing needs of the United Nations police for its critical role in United Nations peacekeeping.

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1718 \(2006\)](#)

On 26 February, the Security Council convened closed consultations on the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1718 \(2006\)](#), submitted in accordance with paragraph 12 (g) of the resolution. The report was delivered by the Deputy Permanent Representative of China and acting Chair of the Committee in his capacity as the President of the Council for the month of February, Geng Shuang. The report addressed the Committee's activities for the period from 27 November 2024 to 26 February 2025.

Middle East

Situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

On 4 February, the Security Council held urgent consultations at the request of the State of Palestine made through the identical letters dated 3 February from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council ([A/ES-10/1021-S/2025/77](#)), in the light of the worsening situation in the West Bank. The Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process ad interim, Sigrid Kaag, and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Tom Fletcher, gave briefings to the Council.

On 12 February, China, in its capacity as the President of the Security Council, gave a briefing to the Council during the closed consultations on the views and concerns of the Arab Group on the implementation of Council resolution [2735 \(2024\)](#) and the latest situation in Gaza.

On 25 February, the Security Council held a briefing on the Middle East. The Council members were given briefings by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process ad interim and civil society representatives. Some members called for upholding the two-State solution as the fundamental way forward to resolve the Palestinian question.

Yemen

On 13 February, the Security Council held a briefing on the situation in Yemen. The Council members were given briefings by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen, Hans Grundberg, and, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Tom Fletcher.

The Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen welcomed the tentative reduction in hostilities over the previous month, along with the release of the crew of the *MV Galaxy Leader*. He echoed the Secretary-General's strong condemnation of the arbitrary detention of United Nations staff and called for their immediate and unconditional release, along with the rest of the staff of the United Nations, non-governmental organizations, civil society and diplomatic missions. He also urged the parties to seize the opportunities created by the recent regional de-escalation to

build confidence through meaningful actions. The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs highlighted the importance of protecting humanitarian workers and reaffirmed his commitment to assisting the millions in need in Yemen, calling for support for the return of United Nations operations to their full capacity.

The Security Council members expressed support for the mediation efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen and reiterated the need for a Yemeni-led, Yemeni-owned and comprehensive political process. The representative of Yemen participated in the meeting under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

On the same day, the Security Council issued a press statement. The Council members strongly condemned the death of a World Food Programme staff member and the ongoing detentions by the Houthis. Council members demanded the immediate and unconditional release of all those detained and reiterated that all threats to those delivering humanitarian aid and assistance are unacceptable.

Syria

On 12 February, the Security Council convened a briefing on Syria. The Council members were given a briefing by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Geir Pedersen, and the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, Joyce Msuya.

The Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria covered several aspects in his briefing, including the Syrian interim authorities' declarations of 29 January, his recent visit to Damascus, the security landscape on the ground and the territorial divisions and conflicts in north-eastern Syrian Arab Republic. He underscored that an inclusive, credible and transparent political transition, that was Syrian-owned and Syrian-led, assisted by the United Nations and with a united international community, in line with the key principles of Security Council resolution [2254 \(2015\)](#), remained the best and only path to addressing challenges. The caretaker authorities had committed to consulting closely with the Special Envoy and his office on all steps of a Syrian-led and Syrian-owned transition. The Special Envoy looked forward to seeing this commitment translated into concrete follow-up actions. He also emphasized that many Syrians had expressed serious concerns as to the inclusion of foreign fighters in the senior ranks of the new armed forces.

The Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator said that the humanitarian system continued to seek new and more efficient ways to scale up operations in the Syrian Arab Republic, including working to move towards a streamlined coordination architecture. She called for a peaceful political transition, respect for international humanitarian law and the protection of civilians, as well as the smooth facilitation of assistance into and within the country.

The Security Council members expressed support for the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria and called for a political transition in line with the principles of Council resolution [2254 \(2015\)](#). Many members expressed concerns about the resurgence of terrorist organizations in the Syrian Arab Republic and urged the Syrian interim authorities to fulfil their obligations to counter terrorism. Representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic, Qatar, Kuwait and Türkiye participated in the meeting in accordance with rule 37.

Africa

Sudan

On 17 February, the Security Council adopted resolution [2772 \(2025\)](#), with 13 votes in favour, none against and 2 abstentions, extending the mandate of the Panel of Experts on Darfur, the Sudan, until 12 March 2026.

On 26 February, the Security Council held a briefing on the Sudan. The Director of the Operations and Advocacy Division of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Edem Wosornu, gave a briefing to the Council on the humanitarian situation in the Sudan. The Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan, Ramtane Lamamra, gave a briefing to the Council on his mediation efforts, during the ensuing closed consultations.

The Director of the Operations and Advocacy Division of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs discussed the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Sudan, in particular in North Darfur, including the Zamzam displacement camp, and in Khartoum. She welcomed the decision by the Sudanese authorities to extend the authorization of the use of the Adré crossing, as well as humanitarian partners' efforts to increase support. She called for protection of civilians, improved humanitarian access and funding support.

The Security Council members expressed concerns over the worsening humanitarian situation, as well as the signing of a charter to establish a parallel governing authority in the Sudan. They reaffirmed their strong commitment to the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the Sudan. They called on the parties to the conflict to seek a cessation of hostilities, including during Ramadan. They expressed their support for the mediation efforts of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan.

South Sudan

On 5 February, the Security Council held a briefing on South Sudan. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), Nicholas Haysom, the Interim Chairperson of the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission, Major General (retired) Charles Tai Gituai, and the Executive Director of the Community Empowerment for Progress Organization, Edmund Yakani, gave briefings to the Council on the situation in South Sudan.

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNMISS noted that some progress had been made in the areas of civic and political space, justice, security arrangements and electoral preparedness, while challenges remained in the humanitarian, economic and security fields. While noting progress, he stated that decision makers needed to tackle several issues simultaneously and immediately. He called on regional actors and the international community to take a unified approach to make clear to all stakeholders the need to avoid another extension of the transitional period. Mr. Gituai pointed out that many tasks remained pending with regard to implementing the 2018 Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, which required political will and funding. Mr. Yakani acknowledged the Government's commitment to an open political space and called for better conditions for credible and peaceful elections with limited external interference.

The Security Council members expressed concerns over the extension of the transitional period and put forward suggestions to support the Government of South Sudan in addressing economic, security and humanitarian challenges. Some members

urged the Government of South Sudan to make more efforts in implementing the Revitalized Agreement. Some members emphasized the importance of respecting the sovereignty and national ownership of South Sudan.

United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic/Central African Republic

On 20 February, the Security Council held a briefing on MINUSCA. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of MINUSCA, Valentine Rugwabiza, gave a briefing to the Council on the situation in the Central African Republic. The President of the Federation of Women Entrepreneurs of the Central African Republic, Portia Deya Abazene, made remarks from the perspectives of women and local development.

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic first expressed her gratitude to the Security Council for the continued support on the mandate renewal. She paid tribute to a 29-year-old Tunisian peacekeeper recently killed in an ambush in Bamingui-Bangoran. She also emphasized that the upcoming electoral cycle represented a historic opportunity to lay the foundation for decentralized governance in the Central African Republic, and that implementing the national border-management policy required additional support to avoid further spillover of the conflict in the Sudan.

The Security Council members welcomed the inauguration of the first-ever multiservice border post between the Central African Republic and Chad. They acknowledged that preparations for the local, legislative and presidential elections were progressing, despite security, logistical and financial challenges. They called for ensuring that all eligible voters are able to register and cast their vote, including women, youth minorities, internally displaced persons, returnees and refugees. Some Council members called on the international community to actively increase investment and expand economic and trade cooperation with the Central African Republic, in alignment with the priority outlined in the Central African Republic national development action plan, so as to help the country achieve sustainable development.

United Nations Support Mission in Libya/Libya

On 19 February, the Security Council held a briefing on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL). The Council heard a briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Rosemary DiCarlo. The representative of Libya also made a statement.

The Security Council members highlighted the limited progress of the Libyan political process towards national elections, emphasizing their support for a Libyan-led and Libyan-owned political process. They welcomed the appointment of the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Libya and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya and encouraged the Special Representative to provide constructive support for the lasting peace of Libya. Some Council members called for refraining from undue external interference and the immediate withdrawal of foreign mercenaries from Libyan territory. Some members drew attention to the discovery of mass graves in north-east and south-east Libya and stressed the urgent need to protect migrants and combat trafficking in persons.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

On 19 February, the Security Council held an urgent briefing on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Council heard briefings by the Special

Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), Bintou Keita, and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region, Xia Huang. The representatives of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Angola, Kenya, Burundi, South Africa and Zimbabwe also made statements, respectively. The Special Representative discussed the advancement of the Mouvement du 23 mars (M23) in South and North Kivu and the serious challenges posed to the Mission's implementation of its mandates. The Special Envoy stressed that the risk of regional conflagration was more real today than ever before and called for the prevention of the undoing of efforts over the previous decade.

The Security Council members expressed grave concern about the continuing deterioration of the situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and called for the cessation of hostilities and de-escalation without delay. They welcomed the regional mediation efforts by the African Union and subregional organizations and called for all parties to return to the track of diplomacy.

On 21 February, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution [2773 \(2025\)](#), deciding that M23 must immediately cease hostilities and withdraw from all controlled areas. In the resolution, the Council also called on the Rwanda Defence Force to cease support for M23 and immediately withdraw from the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo without preconditions. It urged both the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda to return to diplomatic talks without preconditions and reaffirmed the critical role of the Luanda and Nairobi processes. In addition, in the resolution, the Council called for the cessation of support provided by Democratic Republic of the Congo military forces to specific armed groups, in particular the Democratic Liberation Forces of Rwanda (FDLR), and for the urgent implementation of commitments to neutralize that group. In the resolution, the Council demanded that all parties facilitate the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance to populations in need. Furthermore, the Council reaffirmed its full support for MONUSCO and emphasized that any attempts to undermine the Mission's ability to implement its mandate would not be tolerated. The Council members delivered statements, and the representatives of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and Angola also participated and addressed the Council.

Somalia

On 28 February, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution [2775 \(2025\)](#), deciding to renew the provisions set out in paragraphs 15 and 17 of resolution [2182 \(2014\)](#), and expanded by paragraph 5 of resolution [2607 \(2021\)](#), as most recently renewed by paragraph 1 of resolution [2762 \(2024\)](#), until 3 March 2025.

Asia

Afghanistan

On 10 February, the Security Council held a closed consultation on the next steps regarding mandate renewal for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).

United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia

On 6 February, the Security Council held a closed consultation on the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia. The Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Central

Asia and Head of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, Kaha Imnadze.

Europe

Ukraine

On 17 February, the Security Council convened a briefing at the request of the Russian Federation to mark the anniversary of the Minsk agreements. The Council heard briefings by the Assistant Secretary-General for Europe, Central Asia and the Americas, Miroslav Jenča, and Roger Waters, a civil peace activist. The Assistant Secretary-General emphasized that the international community must use the 10-year anniversary as an opportunity to recall previous diplomatic efforts towards de-escalation. He stressed that any peaceful settlement must respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine and welcomed all initiatives with the full participation of both Ukraine and the Russian Federation. Mr. Waters argued that the conflict could have been avoided through diplomacy. Members of the Council outlined lessons learned from the failure of the Minsk agreements and called on the international community to support new diplomatic efforts. Representatives of Ukraine and Germany participated in the meeting under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

On 24 February, the Security Council adopted resolution [2774 \(2025\)](#) with 10 voting in favour, none against and 5 abstentions. In the resolution, the Council implored a swift end to the conflict and urged a lasting peace between Ukraine and the Russian Federation. Some Council members expressed regret that key principles of ensuring a comprehensive, just and lasting peace based on the Charter of the United Nations, including the principles of sovereign equality and territorial integrity of States, were not incorporated in the adopted resolution, while others welcomed the resolution as the first Council action taken in three years on Ukraine to call for an end to the conflict. Two amendments proposed by the Russian Federation and one amendment jointly proposed by Denmark, France, Greece, Slovenia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were not adopted, as they failed to obtain the required number of votes. Two amendments jointly proposed by Denmark, France, Greece, Slovenia and the United Kingdom were rejected after the Russian Federation cast its veto. The Council members repeatedly called on the parties to engage in negotiations to reach a political and peaceful settlement. At the outset of the meeting, France proposed that the vote be postponed, supported by China, Denmark, Greece, Slovenia and the United Kingdom, but opposed by the United States of America. The proposal was ultimately rejected owing to insufficient support.

Following the adoption of the resolution, the Security Council convened a ministerial-level briefing on the maintenance of the peace and security of Ukraine, marking the three-year anniversary of the conflict. The Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs gave a briefing to the Council, highlighting that the conflict had created the largest displacement crisis in Europe since the Second World War. She noted that, in the newly adopted resolution, the Council called for a swift end to the conflict. Some Council members reiterated the urgent need to end the conflict and achieve a just peace based on the Charter of the United Nations. Other members also emphasized the devastating and long-lasting consequences of the conflict on food security, the environment and nuclear security. High-level representatives of Ukraine, Poland, Latvia, Czechia, Finland, Romania, Spain and the Kingdom of the Netherlands participated in the meeting under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.