



Security Council

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Letter dated 3 September 2021 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council

Ireland assumes the presidency of the Security Council on 1 September 2021 at a time when restrictions imposed as a response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) continue to ease, including in New York City.

Against this background, Ireland plans to hold all meetings of the Council in person in the Security Council Chamber at United Nations Headquarters. The conduct of meetings of the Council at Headquarters will be guided by the health and safety advice of the Secretariat. This includes the wearing of a mask at all times, except while delivering remarks. Ireland strongly encourages the vaccination of delegates and Secretariat staff attending meetings in the Chamber.

If the situation with regard to COVID-19 were to deteriorate during the month of September, the Council would have the possibility of reverting to videoconferences. In doing so, the Council would be guided by the working methods set out in the letter dated 7 May 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council ([S/2020/372](#)).

Member States that are not members of the Council will continue to participate in open debates through the submission of written statements. Member States that are not members of the Council and have been invited to participate in public meetings of the Council under rule 37 or rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure, or have been invited by the President of the Council as agreed by the Council prior to the meeting, will be allowed into the Chamber. Others will be able to observe the meetings on United Nations Web TV.

The current working methods and guidelines are a response to exceptional and unprecedented circumstances and will not set a precedent for the future. They may be reviewed, adjusted or discontinued, subject to the agreement of all members of the Council.

(Signed) Geraldine **Byrne Nason**
President of the Security Council

