

Distr.: General 26 November 2013

Original: English

Letter dated 19 November 2013 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the request by the Security Council, in its presidential statement S/PRST/2013/5 of 13 May 2013, inviting me to submit, within six months, a concise report providing a comprehensive survey and assessment of the relevant work of the United Nations to help States, subregional and regional entities in Africa in fighting terrorism.

Given the extensive nature of the consultations that need to be carried out in preparing the report, including with regional and subregional organizations, such as the African Union, and with Member States, I would like to request an extension, until 13 February 2014, to submit my report to the Security Council.

As you are aware, I have just returned from a mission to the Sahel with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the President of the World Bank Group, the President of the African Development Bank and the European Union Development Commissioner to promote closer coordination and cooperation among the countries of the Sahel and their partners. A key objective of the mission was to demonstrate well-coordinated international support for efforts to address the regional drivers of long-standing fragility in the Sahel, including terrorism. My report to the Council will capture this and other initiatives that we are carrying out in Africa, including through the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel, which the Council recently endorsed.

(Signed) BAN Ki-moon



