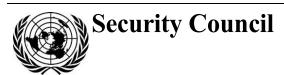
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Letter dated 30 November 2017 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to Security Council resolution 2372 (2017) of 30 August 2017, in which the Council urged the Secretary-General, the African Union and partners to explore in earnest funding arrangements for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), bearing in mind the full range of options available to the United Nations, the African Union, the European Union and other partners, and considering the limitations of voluntary funding. In the resolution, the Council stated that it looked forward to the Secretary-General's report on the future funding of AMISOM by November 2017. In this regard, consultations with key stakeholders, including the Somali leadership and the African Union, have been taking place, and the report was being prepared to meet the deadline established by the Council.

On 27 November 2017, however, I received a letter from the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat, requesting that I postpone the issuance of the report until the end of February 2018, to enable further consultations with a wider range of stakeholders, including AMISOM troop-contributing countries. The Chairperson further proposed to appoint a high-level team of eminent persons to undertake the required consultations and to make recommendations that would inform my report to the Security Council. I am fully committed to the strategic partnership between the United Nations and the African Union. I therefore support the proposal by the Chairperson. Consequently, I would like to inform the Council that I intend to submit the report on the future funding of AMISOM by the end of February 2018. The extended period will enable further collaboration and consultation, which is expected to produce a more informed report for consideration by the Council.

(Signed) António Guterres



