

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 12 December 2017 from the Secretary-General  
addressed to the President of the Security Council**

The mandate of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon expires on 28 February 2018. Article 21, paragraph 2, of the annex to Security Council resolution [1757 \(2007\)](#) provides that, if the activities of the Special Tribunal have not been completed by the end of the Tribunal's current mandate, "the Agreement shall be extended ... for a further period(s) to be determined by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Government [of Lebanon] and the Security Council".

As the activities of the Special Tribunal have not been completed, and having consulted with the Government of Lebanon and the members of the Security Council, I intend to extend the mandate of the Special Tribunal from 1 March 2018 for a period of three years, or upon the completion of the cases before the Special Tribunal, if sooner.

I also have the honour to refer to article 2, paragraph 5 (d), of the annex to Security Council resolution [1757 \(2007\)](#), which provides that I am to appoint the international judges of the Special Tribunal upon the recommendation of a selection panel which I will establish after informing the Security Council of my intention to do so. The panel is to be composed of two judges, currently sitting on or retired from an international tribunal, and the representative of the Secretary-General.

I wish to inform the Security Council of my intention to appoint a selection panel, in accordance with the above-mentioned provision, in order to establish a roster of suitable candidates who could be appointed as international judges on short notice, should any vacancies arise at the Special Tribunal in the near future.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* António **Guterres**

