



Security Council

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Letter dated 30 May 2019 from the Permanent Representatives of China and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

We would like to address you in your capacity as President of the Security Council for the month of May 2019 with reference to the note verbale dated 30 April 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, which was circulated on 1 May as a document of the Council ([S/2019/356](#)).

The Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China do not consider the informal breakfast of the members of the Security Council and the President of the Human Rights Council, Coly Seck, organized and hosted by the Permanent Representative of Germany, Christoph Heusgen, on 10 April 2019 as the establishment of an informal channel of dialogue between the Security Council and the Human Rights Council.

We would like to recall that the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China did not express their support for the proposal of convening an informal discussion of any kind in Geneva between the members of the Human Rights Council and the President of the Security Council. Neither were we provided with reasonable arguments proving that unofficial interaction between the President of the Security Council and the members of the Human Rights Council would contribute to the more effective fulfilment by the Security Council of its mandate regarding the maintenance of peace and security under the Charter of the United Nations.

We are convinced of the necessity of following the existing division of labour between the principal organs of the United Nations. The Human Rights Council is a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and as such is not authorized to interact with the Security Council.

In this regard, we would like to draw your attention to the fact that any contacts between the President of the Security Council and the Human Rights Council shall be considered and agreed upon by the members of the Security Council in accordance with the established procedure. Otherwise, all possible trips of the President of the Security Council to Geneva for an informal dialogue with the members of the Human Rights Council will be considered as unapproved initiatives and the President of the Security Council will not be representing the Council in that capacity.



We would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) **Ma Zhaoxu**
Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China
to the United Nations

(Signed) **Vassily Nebenzia**
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations
