



Security Council

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Letter dated 19 December 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 2557 (2020), related to agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” and adopted on 18 December 2020. Resolution 2557 (2020) was adopted in accordance with the voting procedure set out in the letter dated 27 March 2020 from the President of the Security Council (S/2020/253), a procedure agreed in the light of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease pandemic.

Pursuant to that procedure, I enclose herewith copies of the related documents.

My letter dated 17 December 2020, addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council, putting to the vote the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/1242 (see enclosure to annex I);

Letters received in reply from Security Council members indicating their national position on the draft resolution (see annexes II to XVI);

Statements subsequently submitted by Security Council members providing explanations of their votes (see annexes XVII and XVIII).

This letter and its enclosures will be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jerry Matthews **Matjila**
President of the Security Council



Annex I

Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council

In accordance with the procedure agreed upon by the members of the Security Council in the light of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease pandemic, as set out in the letter dated 27 March 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the members of the Council (S/2020/253), I would like to draw your attention to the following.

The members of the Council have discussed a draft resolution submitted by the United States of America, in connection with the agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”. That draft resolution, contained in document S/2020/1242 and enclosed herein, has been put into blue.

In my capacity as President of the Security Council, I hereby put the above-mentioned draft resolution to a vote. The non-extendable 24-hour voting period for this draft resolution will begin at 3 p.m. on Thursday, 17 December 2020, and will expire at 3 p.m. on Friday, 18 December 2020.

Please submit your vote (in favour, against, or abstain) on the draft resolution, as well as your possible explanation of vote, by sending a letter signed by the Permanent Representative or Chargé d'affaires a.i. within the non-extendable 24-hour voting period set out above to the Officer-in-charge of the Security Council Affairs Division of the Secretariat (sutterlin@un.org).

It is my intention to circulate a letter listing the outcome of the vote within three hours of the conclusion of the 24-hour voting period. I also intend to convene a video-teleconference of the Security Council to announce the outcome of the vote shortly after the conclusion of the voting period, on the afternoon of Friday, 18 December 2020.

(Signed) Jerry Matthews **Matjila**
President of the Security Council

Enclosure

United Nations

S/2020/1242

**Security Council**Provisional
17 December 2020

Original: English

United States of America: draft resolution*The Security Council,*

Recalling its previous resolutions on international terrorism and the threat it poses to Afghanistan, in particular its resolutions 1267 (1999), 1333 (2000), 1363 (2001), 1373 (2001), 1390 (2002), 1452 (2002), 1455 (2003), 1526 (2004), 1566 (2004), 1617 (2005), 1624 (2005), 1699 (2006), 1730 (2006), 1735 (2006), 1822 (2008), 1904 (2009), 1988 (2011), 1989 (2011), 2082 (2012), 2083 (2012), 2133 (2014), 2160 (2014), 2255 (2015), 2501 (2019), and 2513 (2020) and the relevant statements of its President,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan,

Reaffirming its support for a peaceful, stable, and prosperous Afghanistan,

Emphasizing its serious concern about the security situation in Afghanistan, including ongoing violent activities by the Taliban and associated groups, including the Haqqani Network, and ongoing terrorist activities by Al-Qaida, ISIL, and their affiliates,

Reiterating its support for the fight against illicit production and trafficking of drugs from, and its support for the fight against illicit production and trafficking of drugs from, and chemical precursors to, Afghanistan, acknowledging that illicit proceeds of the drug trafficking significantly contribute to the financial resources of the Taliban and its associates, and recognizing the threats that the Taliban, illegal armed groups and criminals involved in narcotics trade, and illicit exploitation of natural resources, continue to pose to the security and stability of Afghanistan,

Urging an immediate reduction in violence leading to a ceasefire to create an environment conducive to peace negotiations,

Reiterating the need to ensure that the present sanctions regime contributes effectively to ongoing efforts to advance reconciliation to bring about peace, stability, and security in Afghanistan, including the importance of the sanctions review in full accordance with resolution 2513,

Welcoming efforts by the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the Taliban in facilitating intra-Afghan negotiations in Doha, Qatar, on 12 September 2020, and encouraging the parties to make rapid progress on a permanent and comprehensive ceasefire, and a political settlement that ends the conflict in Afghanistan and ensures that Afghanistan is never again a safe haven for international terrorism,

Recognizing that, notwithstanding accelerated efforts to make progress toward reconciliation, the situation in Afghanistan remains a threat to international peace and security, and reaffirming the need to combat this threat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, including applicable human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, stressing in this regard the important role the United Nations plays in this effort,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Measures

1. *Decides* that all States shall continue to take the measures required by paragraph 1 of resolution 2255 with respect to individuals and entities designated prior to the date of adoption of resolution 1988 (2011) as the Taliban, as well as other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with the Taliban in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan as designated by the Committee established in paragraph 35 of resolution 1988 (“the Committee”) in the 1988 Sanction List (“the List”);

2. *Decides*, in order to assist the Committee in fulfilling its mandate, that the 1267/1988 Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team (Monitoring Team), established pursuant to paragraph 7 of resolution 1526 (2004), shall continue to support the Committee for a period of twelve months from the date of expiration of the current mandate in December 2020, with the mandate set forth in the annex to this resolution, and further requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements to this effect, and highlights the importance of ensuring that the Monitoring Team receives the necessary administrative and substantive support to effectively, safely and in a timely manner fulfil its mandate, including with regard to duty of care in high risk environments, under the direction of the Committee, a subsidiary organ of the Security Council;

3. *Directs* the Monitoring Team to gather information on instances of non-compliance with the measures imposed in resolution 2255 (2015) and to keep the Committee informed of such instances, as well as to facilitate, upon request by Member States, assistance on capacity-building, encourages Committee members to address issues of non-compliance and bring them to the attention of the Monitoring Team or the Committee, and further directs the Monitoring Team to provide recommendations to the Committee on actions taken to respond to non-compliance;

4. *Decides* to actively review the implementation of the measures outlined in this resolution and to consider adjustments, as necessary, to support peace and stability in Afghanistan;

5. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

Annex

In accordance with paragraph 3 of this resolution, the Monitoring Team shall operate under the direction of the Committee and shall have the following responsibilities:

(a) To submit, in writing, an annual comprehensive, independent report to the Committee, on implementation by Member States of the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution, including specific recommendations for improved implementation of the measures and possible new measures;

(b) To assist the Committee in regularly reviewing names on the List, including by undertaking travel on behalf of the Committee as a subsidiary organ of the Security Council and contact with Member States, with a view to developing the Committee's record of the facts and circumstances relating to a listing;

(c) To assist the Committee in following up on requests to Member States for information, including with respect to implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution;

(d) To submit a comprehensive programme of work to the Committee for its review and approval, as necessary, in which the Monitoring Team should detail the activities envisaged in order to fulfil its responsibilities, including proposed travel on behalf of the Committee;

(e) To gather information on behalf of the Committee on instances of reported non-compliance with the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution, including by, but not limited to, collating information from Member States and engaging with related parties, pursuing case studies, both on its own initiative and upon the Committee's request, and to provide recommendations to the Committee on such cases of non-compliance for its review;

(f) To present to the Committee recommendations, which could be used by Member States to assist them with the implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution and in preparing proposed additions to the List;

(g) To assist the Committee in its consideration of proposals for listing, including by compiling and circulating to the Committee information relevant to the proposed listing, and preparing a draft narrative summary referred to in paragraph 26 of resolution 2255 (2015);

(h) To bring to the Committee's attention new or noteworthy circumstances that may warrant a delisting, such as publicly reported information on a deceased individual;

(i) To consult with Member States in advance of travel to selected Member States, based on its programme of work as approved by the Committee;

(j) To encourage Member States to submit names and additional identifying information for inclusion on the List, as instructed by the Committee;

(k) To consult with the Committee, the Government of Afghanistan, or any relevant Member States, as appropriate, when identifying individuals or entities that could be added to, or removed from, the List;

(l) To present to the Committee additional identifying and other information to assist the Committee in its efforts to keep the List as updated and accurate as possible;

(m) To collate, assess, monitor and report on and make recommendations regarding implementation of the measures, including by key Afghan government

institutions and any capacity assistance requirements; to pursue case studies, as appropriate; and to explore in depth any other relevant issues as directed by the Committee;

(n) To consult with Member States and other relevant organizations and bodies, including United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and other United Nations agencies, and engage in regular dialogue with representatives in New York and in capitals, taking into account their comments, especially regarding any issues that might be reflected in the Monitoring Team's reports referred to in paragraph (a) of this annex;

(o) To cooperate closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and engage in a regular dialogue with Member States and other relevant organizations, including the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, and the Combined Maritime Forces, on the nexus between narcotics trafficking and those individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities eligible for listing under paragraph 1 of resolution 2255 (2015), and report as requested by the Committee;

(p) To provide an update to the special report of the Monitoring Team pursuant to resolution 2160 (2014) Annex (p), as part of its regular comprehensive report;

(q) To consult with Member States' intelligence and security services, including through regional forums, in order to facilitate the sharing of information and to strengthen enforcement of the measures;

(r) To consult with relevant representatives of the private sector, including financial institutions, to learn about the practical implementation of the assets freeze and to develop recommendations for the strengthening of that measure;

(s) To cooperate closely with the ISIL and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) and other relevant United Nations counter-terrorism bodies in providing information on the measures taken by Member States on kidnapping and hostage-taking for ransom and on relevant trends and developments in this area;

(t) To consult with the Government of Afghanistan, Member States, relevant representatives of the private sector, including financial institutions and relevant non financial businesses and professions, and with relevant international organizations, including the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and its regional bodies, to raise awareness of the sanctions and to assist in the implementation of the measures in accordance with FATF Recommendation 6 on asset freezing and its related guidance;

(u) To consult with the Government of Afghanistan, Member States, relevant representatives of the private sector and other international organizations, including International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the World Customs Organization (WCO), and INTERPOL to raise awareness of and learn about the practical implementation of the travel ban, including the use of advanced passenger information provided by civil aircraft operators to Member States, and assets freeze and to develop recommendations for the strengthening of the implementation of these measures;

(v) To consult with the Government of Afghanistan, Member States, international and regional organizations and relevant representatives of the private sector on the threat posed by improvised explosive devices (IEDs) to peace, security and stability in Afghanistan, to raise awareness of the threat and to develop, in line with their responsibilities under paragraph (a) of this annex, recommendations for appropriate measures, to counter this threat;

(w) To work with relevant international and regional organizations in order to promote awareness of, and compliance with, the measures;

(x) To cooperate with INTERPOL and Member States to obtain photographs, physical descriptions and, in accordance with their national legislation, other biometric and biographic data of listed individuals when available for inclusion in INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices and to exchange information on emerging threats;

(y) To assist other subsidiary bodies of the Security Council, and their expert panels, upon request, with enhancing their cooperation with INTERPOL, referred to in resolution 1699 (2006);

(z) To assist the Committee in facilitating assistance in capacity-building for enhancing implementation of the measures, upon request by Member States;

(aa) To report to the Committee, on a regular basis or when the Committee so requests, through oral and/or written briefings on the work of the Monitoring Team, including its visits to Member States and its activities;

(bb) To study and report to the Committee on the current nature of the threat of individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with the Taliban, in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan and the best measures to confront it, including by developing a dialogue with relevant scholars, academic bodies and experts according to the priorities identified by the Committee;

(cc) To gather information, including from the Government of Afghanistan and relevant Member States, on travel that takes place under a granted exemption, pursuant to paragraph 20 of resolution 2255 (2015), and to report to the Committee, as appropriate; and

(dd) Any other responsibility identified by the Committee.

Annex II

Letter dated 18 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to the President of the Security Council's letter of 17 December relating to the draft resolution under the agenda item "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts", contained in S/2020/1242.

In accordance with the procedure set forth for the adoption of resolutions under the current extraordinary circumstance caused by the coronavirus disease pandemic, I am pleased to indicate that Belgium votes in favour of this draft resolution. At this stage, my delegation does not intend to deliver an explanation of vote.

(Signed) Philippe **Kridelka**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations

Annex III

Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Chargé d'affaires of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I thank you and your team for the continued strong support in facilitating the voting procedure.

Please be kindly informed that China votes in favour on the draft resolution (S/2020/1242) submitted by the United States of America for the mandate renewal of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011).

(Signed) **Dai Bing**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires of China to the United Nations

Annex IV

Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Special Envoy to the Security Council of the Dominican Republic addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to your letter dated 17 December 2020 regarding the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/1242, under the agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”.

Upon instructions from my Government, the delegation of the Dominican Republic votes in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution.

(Signed) José **Singer Weisinger**
Ambassador

Special Envoy to the Security Council of the Dominican Republic

Annex V**Letter dated 18 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to inform you, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, that my delegation votes in favour of the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”, contained in document S/2020/1242.

(Signed) **Sven Jürgenson**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations

Annex VI

Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

I refer to the letter dated 17 December 2020 calling on the members of the Council to vote on the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America under the agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”, put into blue under the symbol S/2020/1242. France votes in favour.

(Signed) **Nicolas de Rivière**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations

Annex VII**Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

It is my honour to write to you, Sir, in response to the letter by the President of the Security Council dated 17 December 2020 initiating a written voting procedure in line with the agreement reached among members of the Security Council.

The vote of the Federal Republic of Germany on the draft resolution submitted by the United States in connection with the agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”, as contained in document S/2020/1242, is as follows: the Federal Republic of Germany votes in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution.

(Signed) Christoph **Heusgen**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations

Annex VIII

Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am writing in reference to the letter from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations, in his capacity as the President of the Security Council, dated 17 December 2020, regarding the draft resolution on the extension of the mandate of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team, under agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” (S/2020/1242).

I hereby indicate that Indonesia votes in favour of said draft resolution.

(Signed) Dian Triansyah **Djani**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations

Annex IX**Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Niger to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I am writing in response to the letter from the President of the Security Council dated 17 December 2020 calling on the members of the Council to express their vote on the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America under the item "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts" (S/2020/1242).

In accordance with the agreed temporary procedures for the adoption of draft resolutions during the coronavirus disease pandemic restrictions, I have the honour to indicate that the Republic of the Niger decides to vote in favour of said draft resolution.

(Signed) Niandou **Aougi**
Minister Counsellor
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Niger to the United Nations

Annex X

Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 17 December 2020, on the beginning of the voting procedure for the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts" (S/2020/1242).

In accordance with the procedure for the adoption of draft resolutions of the Security Council being in place during the duration of the restrictions on movement in New York due to the coronavirus disease pandemic, outlined in a letter by the President of the Security Council dated 27 March 2020 (S/2020/253), I have the honour to inform you that the Russian Federation votes in favour of draft resolution S/2020/1242.

(Signed) Dmitry Polyanskiy

Ambassador

Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Russian Federation to the United Nations

Annex XI**Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to refer to the draft resolution (S/2020/1242) submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”.

In that respect, I wish to inform you, Sir, that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines votes in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution.

(Signed) Inga Rhonda King
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
to the United Nations

Annex XII

Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to your letter dated 17 December 2020 regarding the Security Council draft resolution submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”, contained in document S/2020/1242.

The delegation of the Republic of South Africa votes in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution.

(Signed) Jerry Matthews **Matjila**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations

Annex XIII**Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

With reference to the letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, regarding draft resolution S/2020/1242, submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”, I would like to inform you, Sir, that Tunisia votes in favour of that draft resolution.

(Signed) Tarek **Ladeb**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations

Annex XIV

Letter dated 18 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to the letter from the President of the Security Council dated 17 December 2020, the United Kingdom votes in favour of the draft resolution (S/2020/1242) in connection with the agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”.

(Signed) Barbara **Woodward**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations

Annex XV**Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

On the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” (S/2020/1242), the United States of America votes in favour.

(Signed) **Kelly Craft**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the United States of America
to the United Nations

Annex XVI

Letter dated 17 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In reference to the letter dated 17 December 2020 from the President of the Security Council relating to the draft resolution under the agenda item entitled “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”, as contained in document S/2020/1242, I would like to hereby inform you that Viet Nam votes in favour of the said draft resolution.

(Signed) **Dang Dinh Quy**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations

Annex XVII**Statement by the Chargée d'affaires a.i. of France to the United Nations, Nathalie Broadhurst**

[Original: French]

France welcomes the adoption of resolution 2557 (2020), the text of which renews the mandate of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011) and makes it possible to guarantee that the Team's work will continue and that, moreover, the sanctions regime is effective.

Recent progress towards peace is encouraging, but much remains to be done. We expect all parties to engage constructively and in good faith in the negotiations when they resume.

France would like to recall that, as provided for in resolution 2513 (2020), adopted on 10 March 2020, the Council is ready to review the 1988 Committee's sanctions list, but that this review will take place only in the light of the progress and the efforts made by the Taliban to reduce violence and cease carrying out or supporting activities that threaten the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan. The level of violence to date shows that these efforts have not been realized.

France will continue to advocate the reduction of violence but also the preservation of democratic gains and the participation of women, in order to support the peace process and assist Afghanistan on the road to lasting peace.

Annex XVIII

Statement by the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations

Germany welcomes the renewal of the mandate of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011), which will allow the Team to continue its crucial work. The Security Council and the Sanctions Committee rely on the expertise and support of the Monitoring Team. Therefore, Germany voted in favour of resolution 2557 (2020) today.

However, Germany is concerned that the amendments to the text contain more than mere technical updates as compared to last year's resolution (resolution 2501 (2019)). To obtain a different result, more time for discussion and reflection would have been required.

While we recognize and welcome the important steps made by both sides with the start of the Afghan peace negotiations and the agreement on the rules of procedure, we caution that, unfortunately, the Taliban have not yet ceased to use terrorist tactics and acts as a means of warfare. This link is the reason that the sanctions regime pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011) was first established and must continue to exist. We regret that this is not adequately reflected in resolution 2557 (2020).

Germany remains committed to supporting the people of Afghanistan and the peace process, in which we consider the sanctions regime pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011) and its Monitoring Team to play an important role.
