

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
25 May 2021

Original: English

Letter dated 25 May 2021 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 enclose herewith a copy of the briefings provided by Mr. Ján Kubiš, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Libya and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, and Ambassador T.S. Tirumurti, Permanent Representative of India, in his capacity as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya, as well as the statements delivered by the representatives of China, Estonia, France, India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico, the Niger, Norway, the Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Viet Nam in connection with the video-conference on “The situation in Libya” convened on Friday, 21 May 2021. A statement was also delivered by the representative of Libya.

In accordance with the procedure set out in the letter by the President of the Security Council addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Council dated 7 May 2020 (S/2020/372), which was agreed in the light of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease pandemic, these briefings and statements will be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) **Zhang Jun**
President of the Security Council



Annex I**Briefing by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, Ján Kubiš**

Over the course of the last several months, positive developments have renewed hope for the reunification of Libya and its institutions, for the restoration of its sovereignty, and for sustainable peace, development, security and stability in the country and the region.

A critical task of Libyan authorities and institutions remains to ensure the holding of parliamentary and presidential elections on 24 December as set out in the road map of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum (LPDF) and called for by resolution 2570 (2021). This priority lies at the core of the mandate of the Government of National Unity. The House of Representatives has the responsibility of clarifying the constitutional basis for elections and adopting the necessary electoral legislation. This must be done by 1 July at the latest, to give Libya's High National Elections Commission (HNEC) adequate time to prepare for the elections.

The United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) facilitated the work of the LPDF's legal committee, which developed a proposal for the constitutional basis of the elections. The LPDF will discuss the proposal at its plenary meeting, which is scheduled for 26 and 27 May, with a focus on resolving the remaining open issues and forwarding the proposed constitutional basis to the House of Representatives and the High Council of State.

Following our meeting, the Speaker of the House, in his statement of 4 May, confirmed the importance of holding the presidential and parliamentary elections on time. He noted that if the LPDF agrees, the agreement should be referred to the House of Representatives to be adopted and added to the constitutional declaration, and if there is no agreement, then we, said the Speaker, will implement House Resolution No. 5 of 2014, to conduct direct presidential elections. Draft legislation on direct presidential elections is ready to be presented to the House of Representatives, said the Speaker.

The HNEC has been working consistently for the elections to be held on 24 December 2021. The voters list has been revised to be ready for an upcoming voter registration update, and the production of 2.3 million voter cards for those voters who registered in previous electoral processes has already started. At the local level, the Central Committee for Municipal Council Elections aims to conclude 70 outstanding council elections this year, including in the eastern region. But HNEC efforts will be futile if the electoral legislation is not adopted by the House of Representatives by the end of June at the latest, in order to implement credible national elections.

The ceasefire continues to hold. Notwithstanding occasional clashes between diverse armed groups, confidence-building between the two sides continues. In the past period, hundreds of prisoners and detainees were released by both sides, with releases taking place almost weekly in different parts of the country, particularly during the month of Ramadan.

Yet, progress on such key issues as the reopening of the coastal road between Sirte and Misrata and the start of the withdrawal of foreign mercenaries, fighters and foreign forces has stalled, thus entrenching the division of Libya.

The recent report of the United Nations Panel of Experts (see S/2021/229) painted a bleak picture of non-compliance with the arms embargo. Resolutions 2570 (2021) and 2571 (2021) found it necessary to again urge Libyan parties and all Member States to respect and support the full implementation of the arms embargo

and ceasefire agreement, including through the withdrawal of all foreign forces and mercenaries from Libya without delay. I would like to acknowledge in this regard the important role played by the European Union Naval Force Mediterranean Operation IRINI.

Article 2 of the ceasefire agreement stipulates that:

“... all military units and armed groups shall clear all confrontation lines and return to their camps; in parallel, all mercenaries and foreign fighters shall depart from the Libyan territories — land, air and sea”.

Accordingly, having a limited number of mercenaries withdraw and then flying them out of Libya can commence a reciprocal, balanced and sequenced withdrawal of foreign mercenaries, fighters and foreign forces from the country. This approach, already adopted by the 5+5 Joint Military Commission (JMC), needs to be complemented by a plan and timeline agreed with those external forces that are associated with mercenaries and foreign forces in Libya.

Resolution 2570 (2021) authorizes UNSMIL to deploy monitors in support of the Libyan-led and Libyan-owned ceasefire monitoring mechanism. For the first phase, the Secretariat plans to deploy a forward presence to Tripoli of a total 10 monitors from existing United Nations capacities of United Nations observers.

The continued use, presence and activities of thousands of mercenaries, foreign fighters and armed groups is a significant threat not just to Libya's security but to the region as a whole. The recent disturbing events in Chad remind us again of the interrelated nature and links between the security situation in Libya and the security and stability of the region.

The high mobility of armed groups and terrorists as well as economic migrants and refugees, often through channels operated by organized criminal networks and other local players across uncontrolled borders, only enhances risks of furthering instability and insecurity in Libya and the region. It is therefore critical to ensure an orderly departure of foreign fighters, mercenaries and armed groups, together with disarming, demobilizing and reintegrating them in their countries of origin.

Withdrawal of foreign fighters and armed groups with origins in the region must be accompanied by scaled-up efforts across Libya and the wider region to address root causes of instability, notably through inclusive reconciliation, peacebuilding and development programmes, with a focus on youth and women's empowerment. Coordinated, complementary measures and programmes supported and co-financed by the international community, coupled with resolute domestic and international action against criminal gangs of traffickers of persons, drugs and weapons, must be a part of the solution, if it is to be durable and sustainable, as should cooperative measures to enhance control in the border areas, including integrated border control and management. It is equally critical to revisit the approach undertaken by the European Union (EU) in addressing the issue of refugees and migrants, working in partnership with Libya, the United Nations and the African Union (AU).

The ceasefire agreement establishes the Libyan-owned framework for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR). The JMC has been given the task of establishing a DDR subcommittee to start identifying and categorizing armed groups and armed entities on Libyan territory, with a view to dismantling them and reintegrating their personnel into society or State service. The United Nations is committed to supporting the commencement of planning for DDR and security sector reform (SSR) pursuant to a nationally-owned and nationally-led strategy for DDR and SSR.

On 5 April, the Libyan Presidency Council announced the establishment of a high national reconciliation commission. Joint United Nations-AU work is under way to support Libyan authorities on promoting rights-based reconciliation and transitional justice, with a focus on community and local-level reconciliation and the meaningful participation of women, youth and all of Libya's cultural components.

The common thread running through all the human rights challenges in Libya is impunity, including for the most serious violations of international law. One of the starkest reminders of the horrors of the Libyan conflict is the discovery of over a hundred mass graves, following the Government of National Accord's recapture of Tarhouna. The rights of victims to truth, justice and reparation — and the return to full accountability for crimes — is the only way to ensure justice and rights-based reconciliation in the country. Unless Libya addresses violations perpetrated by all sides in the cycles of conflict, then any efforts towards sustainable peace will fail.

The situation of migrants and refugees in Libya remains of grave concern. There are approximately 575,000 migrants from over 41 countries in Libya, with more than two thirds coming from neighbouring countries. More than 500 have died, and, so far in 2021, some 9,135 migrants and refugees have been returned to Libya by the Libyan Coast Guard, compared to 12,000 returned for all of 2020. Most of those returned are arbitrarily detained by the Department for Combating Illegal Migration in extremely poor conditions with restricted or no access for humanitarian agencies, or they are transferred to non-State actors, with the result that thousands of people are missing and unaccounted for in the official detention system. The Government of National Unity should swiftly put in place due process guarantees to end and prevent arbitrary detention by establishing a judicial review system led by the Ministry of Justice in line with its recent commitments to addressing arbitrary detention. In this regard, we welcome a very positive response from the Libyan Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Justice, both of whom are women.

The Government's active support in facilitating the Organization for Migration and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in humanitarian evacuation and voluntary return and resettlement of migrants and refugees from Libya is urgently needed in view of Libyan authorities' recent cancellations and postponements of such departures. I welcome renewed efforts aimed at addressing the multifaceted migration and refugee issues in Libya through the revitalized AU-EU-United Nations tripartite task force.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), as of early May, the total number of reported cases of the coronavirus disease in Libya was 181,174. The Government of National Unity's national vaccination programme is under way in municipalities across the country. As of mid-May, with 731,000 people registered in the programme, about 100,000 people have received their first vaccine dose. The WHO and UNICEF continue to support national efforts aimed at fighting the pandemic, including with the arrival in Libya on 19 May of the second batch of 117,600 vaccine doses through the COVAX facility.

It is up to the Libyan authorities and the national institutions to use the opportunities of the newly regained nascent unity and sovereignty to continue the political transition towards a unified, fully sovereign, peaceful and stable country, with the full, effective and meaningful participation of women and youth. The significant progress and achievements witnessed in the past many months must be consolidated. The processes must regain momentum, and the authorities and institutions of Libya must live up to their responsibilities. All Libyan parties need to cooperate and support the Presidency Council and Government of National Unity in their efforts to fully extend and effectively assert their authority as they fulfil their responsibilities throughout the whole of Libya.

Concerted and aligned efforts of the international community in support of Libyan-led and Libyan-owned processes remain critical. We need to continue working together with and providing meaningful support to Libyan authorities and institutions in their efforts to achieve national reconciliation and transitional justice, unification of State institutions, full implementation of the ceasefire agreement — all with a view to setting the stage for the elections to be held on 24 December. The elections must be conducted in a free, fair and secure manner in order to ensure that the results are accepted. This is important for the Libyan people and for the region as a whole.

Annex II**Briefing by the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011), T.S. Tirumurti**

In accordance with paragraph 24 (e) of resolution 1970 (2011) of 26 February 2011, I have the honour to report to the Security Council on the work of the Committee established by the same resolution. I will report on developments since the beginning of my term as Chair, 1 January 2021, to the present date, given that the Committee's annual report for 2020 (S/2020/1256), covered the period from my predecessor's last briefing (S/2020/879, annex II) on 2 September 2020, to the end of 2020. During this period, the members of the Committee met twice in the "informal informals" format via closed video-teleconference and conducted additional work using the silence procedure.

Allow me to begin by recalling resolution 2571 (2021), adopted by the Security Council on 16 April 2021 (see S/2021/382), in which it extended the timebound authorizations and measures aimed at preventing illicit exports of petroleum from Libya, including crude oil and refined petroleum products, to 30 July 2022. The arms embargo, the travel ban and the assets freeze were not timebound and continue to apply. The Council also extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts on Libya to 15 August 2022. On 14 May, the Secretary-General appointed six individuals to serve on the Panel.

On 5 March, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on its final report (see S/2021/229) submitted in accordance with resolution 2509 (2020). Since the report is publicly available, I will not summarize its findings. During the closed video-teleconference, Committee members commended the work of the Panel. They expressed concern over the reported violations of the arms embargo, urging all States Members of the United Nations to respect the embargo. They also expressed concern over the continued presence of foreign forces and mercenaries in Libya, despite the signing of the ceasefire agreement on 23 October 2020, and called for those forces' and mercenaries' immediate withdrawal. They further underlined the Panel's reporting on violations of international humanitarian law and human rights abuses in Libya, including the events in Tarhouna and Mizdah, and the plight of migrants in general. Committee members agreed on follow-up action in relation to the nine recommendations addressed to the Committee.

The publication of the Panel's final report was preceded by leaks to the media of some of its contents, as well as the spread of misinformation. Committee members expressed their concern and dismay in that regard.

In terms of agreed follow-up action, the Committee dispatched letters to Libya on matters pertaining to migrants, asylum seekers and detainees, including the killings at Mizdah, and aspects of the assets freeze in relation to the Libyan Investment Authority. At a technical working level, members of the Committee discussed, but agreed to take no further action on, two further aspects of the assets freeze highlighted by the Panel. The Committee also updated some identifying information on its sanctions list.

On 10 May, the Committee and invited participants heard a briefing by the Panel of Experts. Eighteen Member States, including Libya, and three regional organizations participated in the closed video-teleconference. The purpose of this event was to continue to strengthen the dialogue on the effective implementation of the sanctions measures imposed by the Security Council in relation to Libya. In addition to participating in the meeting, the Syrian Arab Republic also conveyed a note verbale to the Committee dated 9 May 2021.

With respect to the arms embargo, the Committee received letters from Egypt and Greece, respectively, on different aspects of that measure. The Committee approved a request for exemption, under paragraph 9 (c) of resolution 1970 (2011), submitted by Malta. The Committee received five inspection reports on five vessels and three reports on the attempted inspections of three vessels from the European Union Naval Force Mediterranean Operation IRINI.

With regard to the assets freeze, no negative decision was taken by the Committee in relation to two exemption notifications, invoking paragraph 19 (a) of resolution 1970 (2011), submitted by Switzerland and the United Kingdom. In connection with three additional notifications, invoking paragraphs 19 (a) or 21 of resolution 1970 (2011), submitted by Belgium, Bahrain and Canada, the Committee determined that none met the scope of the provisions stipulated in the paragraph invoked. The Committee also received a letter from Liechtenstein in follow-up to a notification previously submitted under paragraph 19 (a) of resolution 1970 (2011). The Committee received two letters from the Libyan Investment Authority on various aspects of the assets freeze. Lastly, during the reporting period, the Committee received two implementation reports from India and Mexico.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate the Committee's commitment to contributing to the promotion of peace and stability in Libya.

Annex III**Statement by the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations, Zhang Jun**

[Original: Chinese]

I thank Special Representative Kubiš and the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya, Ambassador Tirumurti, Permanent Representative of India, for their briefings.

Since the beginning of this year, the ceasefire in Libya has generally been maintained and the political process has continued to move forward. All parties in Libya and the international community must cherish the fruits of peace, seize the window of opportunity and continue to strengthen their efforts to achieve long-term stability in Libya. I would like to make the following points.

First, the ceasefire should be maintained, and peace and stability should be preserved. Maintaining the ceasefire is the fundamental prerequisite for advancing the political transition and unifying State institutions. Under the mechanism of the 5+5 Joint Military Commission, all parties in Libya should continue to fully implement the ceasefire agreement, actively promote security sector reform and establish joint military and police forces. The international community must create favourable conditions for that.

The United Nations must deploy the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) ceasefire monitoring mechanism as soon as possible, in accordance with the requirements of resolution 2570 (2021) and on the basis of the principle of ownership and leadership by the Libyans. The withdrawal of foreign combatants and mercenaries from Libya should be carried out in an organized and orderly manner to prevent further negative impacts on regional stability.

Secondly, we should maintain the positive momentum and advance the political transition. Recently, the Libyan parties successfully formed the Government of National Unity, completed the transfer of power, embarked on a national reconciliation process and held municipal elections, achieving positive results.

The next step is to ensure that the general election at the end of the year is held on schedule and smoothly. We encourage all parties to put the interests of the country and its people first, strengthen unity and cooperation and resolve disputes that may arise in the course of the election preparations through dialogue and consultation. In accordance with its Security Council mandate, UNSMIL should strengthen its communication and coordination with the Libyan Government and provide constructive assistance.

Thirdly, we should expedite post-war reconstruction and consolidate the gains of peace. China appreciates the efforts made by the Libyan Government to draw up a Government budget, unify the Central Bank institutions and improve economic management. It encourages the Libyan Government to continue to stabilize oil production, promote economic reforms, improve public services and resume economic development as soon as possible. The international community should increase assistance to benefit and deepen investment cooperation in trade, investment, infrastructure construction and other fields.

Fourthly, we should take the current situation into account and serve the overall goal. China has always believed that sanctions are only a means, not an end in themselves. Under the current circumstances, the arms embargo imposed on Libya should be effectively implemented. Libya is concerned about the loss of frozen assets, and the Sanctions Committee should expedite its consideration of

appropriate ways to respond to its legitimate concerns. The annual report of the Sanctions Committee's Panel of Experts on Libya (see S/2021/1256) was leaked before its official release, causing speculation. It is hoped that further measures will be taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents.

China is ready to work with the international community to further contribute to achieving lasting peace, prosperity and development in Libya.

Annex IV**Statement by the Deputy Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations, Gert Auväärt**

I thank the Special Envoy, Ján Kubiš, for his briefing. I would like to express Estonia's full support for his work and for the United Nations Support Mission in Libya.

The continuation of Libya's political process is encouraging and gives hope that a lasting peace in a unified Libya can be achieved. It is now crucial to keep up this pace for the elections to take place on 24 December. The Libyan Political Dialogue Forum road map and the Security Council's recently adopted resolution 2570 (2021) provide the necessary framework for that.

The genuine and constructive engagement of all Libyan parties is of key importance in ensuring that a credible and transparent election process takes place in the planned time frame. It is extremely important to involve the voices of women and young people at all stages and all levels of the process. Moreover, creating a safe space for women and young people to express their views without the fear of retaliation is the only viable way to a lasting peace.

Regarding the military track, the 5+5 Joint Military Commission's commitment to the 23 October ceasefire agreement is encouraging. It is of the utmost importance to fully implement the ceasefire agreement. We commend the recent prisoner exchanges, as they are important confidence-building measures. The opening of the coastal road — a major element of the ceasefire agreement — would further build trust between the parties and serve the purpose of unifying Libya.

Another essential element of the Libyan ceasefire agreement is the removal of all foreign fighters and mercenaries. Libyans have expressed their wishes very clearly, and it is the duty of the international community to show respect by ending all foreign interference. We reiterate our call on all those involved to put an immediate end to the blatant violations of the Libyan sanctions regime and to withdraw all foreign fighters and mercenaries from Libya. All actions that violate the Libyan arms embargo must stop immediately.

Estonia welcomes the efforts of the European Union Naval Force Mediterranean Operation IRINI in supporting the implementation of the Security Council arms embargo. Operation IRINI acts strictly under Security Council authorizations, is impartial in its activities and offers an important contribution to the implementation of the sanctions regime. It is therefore important to renew the Security Council authorizations, as set out in resolution 2526 (2020).

In its resolution 2570 (2021) the Security Council gave a clear and flexible mandate for the establishment of a credible, realistic and effective ceasefire-monitoring mechanism that acts under the auspices of the United Nations. We now call for the implementation of all necessary measures to allow for the Libyan-led and Libyan-owned ceasefire-monitoring mechanism and its international support component to be deployed as soon as possible.

Concrete steps need to be taken to further build trust between the Libyan parties and in Libyan society. That includes thoroughly investigating all alleged human rights violations, mass killings, torture and enforced disappearances and ensuring justice for the victims. Taking concrete measures to fight against impunity, ensuring accountability and focusing on reconciliation are essential in healing the society.

Estonia remains concerned about the humanitarian situation on the ground. The extremely dire situation and the constant exposure to violence, including sexual

and gender-based violence, to which migrants and asylum seekers fall victim, are of great concern. We call on the authorities to take clear steps to alleviate the suffering of civilians.

Finally, I would like to stress that the political process under the auspices of the United Nations and the Berlin process remains the only acceptable international framework to support Libyans in their efforts to achieve a lasting peace.

Annex V**Statement by the Deputy Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, Nathalie Broadhurst Estival**

[Original: French]

I thank Special Envoy Ján Kubiš and the Indian Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya for their briefings. I would also like to welcome the presence among us of the Libyan Permanent Representative.

Libya has seen encouraging progress on the political front in recent months, but the situation remains fragile. It is imperative that every effort be made to ensure that the political transition is successful.

In particular, all the conditions necessary for the successful holding of elections on 24 December must be met. Those conditions were clearly established by the Security Council in resolution 2570 (2021), which was unanimously adopted and welcomed by the Libyan stakeholders. That resolution must now be fully implemented. A legal framework for the elections must be developed. A unified budget must be adopted. The meaningful participation of women and young people in the electoral process must be ensured. The stability and sovereignty of the country and the security of Libyans must be guaranteed. To that end, the ceasefire agreement of 23 October must be fully implemented and the arms embargo should be respected.

As we know, foreign forces and mercenaries must withdraw from Libyan territory, as provided for in the ceasefire agreement endorsed by the Libyans in the framework of the 5+5 Joint Military Commission and in accordance with resolution 2570 (2021). France is ready to work with the Libyans and with all the relevant Member States to provide a diplomatic solution to enable that withdrawal and its verification, while ensuring that it does not destabilize Libya's neighbouring countries, from which some of the mercenaries very often originate.

We call for the implementation of all the confidence-building measures provided for in the ceasefire agreement, in particular the urgent reopening of the coastal road between Sirte and Misrata.

We also call on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) to make every effort without delay to facilitate the establishment of the Libyan ceasefire-monitoring mechanism, in accordance with resolution 2570 (2021), with a sufficient number of international observers. The European Union (EU) is fully prepared to respond to requests from the Libyan parties and UNSMIL to contribute to that mechanism.

We also recall the essential role played by the EU Naval Force Mediterranean Operation IRINI in the implementation of the arms embargo decided by the Council. Operation IRINI is the only mechanism dedicated to the implementation of the embargo, the violations of which have been amply documented by the Panel of Experts on Libya for the benefit of both parties. It is therefore indispensable. It implements its mandate with neutrality and impartiality, and must continue to do so. That is why France and Estonia will soon propose a draft resolution that will renew the high-seas inspection mechanism established by resolution 2292 (2016). We are counting on the unanimous support of the Council.

The crisis in Libya will be resolved in the long term if a number of key structural issues are addressed.

The death of President Idriss Deby reminds us of the security risks posed by foreign armed groups in Libya, especially for all neighbouring countries and in particular the Sahel. With regard to Libyan armed groups and militias, the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process in Libya must begin without delay, in parallel with the reconstruction of unified security institutions. The objective is clear: Libya cannot regain its sovereignty without dismantling the militia groups as soon as possible.

The unification of Libya's armed and security forces, as well as its economic and financial institutions, is essential. That must also ensure a fair and equitable distribution of Libya's resources for the benefit of the entire Libyan population.

The serious human rights violations in Libya are unacceptable. We must put an end to the trafficking of migrants, which has been highlighted by many speakers today. We therefore call on our partners in the Security Council to remove their reservations on the individuals proposed for sanctions by the Committee. It is also important that UNSMIL particularly ensure the protection of children in the Libyan conflict. Finally, in order to fight against impunity for perpetrators of international crimes, we recall the obligation imposed by resolution 1970 (2011) on the Libyan authorities and the relevant parties to cooperate with the International Criminal Court.

France will remain committed and engaged, together with its European partners, in order to put an end to the Libyan crisis so as to build a peaceful future in Libya. The Council meeting in July, under the French presidency of the Security Council, will provide an opportunity to take stock of the situation exactly six months before the elections.

Annex VI**Statement by the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations, T.S. Tirumurti**

I would like to thank Special Envoy Ján Kubiš for his briefing to the Security Council. I also welcome His Excellency Mr. Taher Elsonni, Permanent Representative of Libya, to this meeting.

We are happy to note that, more than a decade since the start of the conflict in Libya, there is now reason for cautious optimism. The Government of National Unity, charged with the conduct of elections on 24 December, is moving ahead with purpose and the ceasefire agreement is largely holding. However, as we heard from the Special Envoy, despite the progress, there are still causes for concern and the possibility of spoilers hindering the political process. It is incumbent upon the international community, and the Council in particular, to provide support to Libya as it embarks on its journey towards peace and stability. In that regard, I would like to emphasize the following points.

First, the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Libya need to be safeguarded. The peace process must be fully Libyan-led and Libyan-owned, with no imposition or external interference.

Secondly, it is imperative that elections be held smoothly on 24 December in a free and fair manner. For that, the Government of National Unity needs to provide the necessary administrative support, including the provision of an adequate budget, and the House of Representatives needs to clarify the constitutional and legal basis for the elections and then enact legislation, as necessary, by 1 July.

Thirdly, sustainable peace requires an inclusive and comprehensive national reconciliation process. We hope that all the parties concerned will engage sincerely in that endeavour. We also urge the international community to support such a process.

Fourthly, it is a matter of concern that provisions of the ceasefire agreement continue to be violated, in particular those relating to the withdrawal of foreign fighters and mercenaries. The continued presence of foreign fighters poses a serious threat not only to Libya but also to its neighbours and the region as a whole. It is imperative that the coastal road be opened at the earliest possible time as an important element of the ceasefire agreement. Besides integrating Libya, this will also be a visible symbol of the commitment of the global community to the ceasefire agreement and the peace process. We look forward to an early deployment of the ceasefire monitoring component of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), as approved by the Security Council through its resolution 2570 (2021).

Fifthly, it is important to plan for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of armed groups and non-State armed actors. We appreciate the fact that UNSMIL is prepared to render assistance to Libya in that process.

Sixthly, we must ensure that terrorist forces and organizations not be allowed to thrive in Libya, since that may lead to a cascading effect throughout the region. The international community must speak with one voice against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

India has traditionally enjoyed close and mutually beneficial bilateral ties with Libya, reinforced by close business and other links. India remains committed to supporting Libya and the Libyan people in their endeavour to bring about lasting peace in the country. To that end, we look forward to working with the Government of National Unity in providing capacity-building and training assistance in mutually identified areas.

Annex VII**Statement by the Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations, Geraldine Byrne Nason**

My thanks to Ján Kubiš for his briefing and his assured stewardship of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) at such an important moment for Libya. I want to thank Ambassador Tirumurti for his briefing and to welcome Ambassador Elsonni and thank him for his excellent briefing this morning.

We welcome the significant progress in Libya on the political front in recent months. We see this as a testament to the work of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum and the political will and desire among the Libyan people themselves for a better future. It is important to keep up the momentum on the political and security tracks. We want also to commend Germany for its leadership of the Berlin process, which plays a vital role in maximizing international support for Libya, and we look forward to its meeting next month.

On the political track, obviously much remains to be delivered — we have heard that this morning — to ensure that the Libyan people will have the unified and peaceful future they deserve. The elections scheduled for 24 December mark a pivotal moment for Libya and must proceed as planned. It is important therefore that the House of Representatives clarify and enact, at the latest by 1 July, the constitutional basis, as well as the legal and budgetary framework for the elections, as the Security Council called for in resolution 2570 (2021), adopted last month. This will help ensure that elections are peaceful, transparent and inclusive, so that the people of Libya can determine their own future. It will be critical for the Government of National Unity to ensure the safety of political figures, candidates and voters alike. The conduct of municipal elections, despite the political, security and pandemic-related challenges, is an important and encouraging achievement.

It is also of vital importance that women fully participate in the December elections and in the political process more broadly. I would like to salute the key role of the women's caucus in the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum, and I also want to welcome the pledge by the new interim executive authority to appoint women to at least 30 per cent of senior executive positions. We are going to watch that and ensure that it is fulfilled. Ireland echoes the Secretary-General's call on the Government of National Unity to deliver on that important commitment.

On the security track, Ireland urges UNSMIL to play a more forward role on the ceasefire monitoring mechanism in close coordination with the 5+5 Joint Military Commission. While the process should of course be Libyan-owned and Libyan-led, UNSMIL and the international community must support Libyans in the implementation of the ceasefire. We look forward to the deployment of UNSMIL monitors as swiftly as possible. We emphasize the need to ensure that gender considerations are taken fully into account.

Ireland remains deeply concerned about the continued presence in Libya of foreign fighters and mercenaries. We commend the African members of the Security Council, namely, South Africa, Tunisia and the Niger, as well as Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, for highlighting the implications of this situation for neighbouring countries. We reiterate our call that all provisions of the ceasefire be implemented. Welcome progress has been made in clearing explosive remnants of war from the coastal road. However, the road's continuing closure is regrettable. Libya and neighbouring countries will also need support on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration and on security sector reform. Gender considerations will be important there too.

Ireland is very concerned by continuing reports of violations of the arms embargo, despite numerous calls by the Security Council, most recently in resolution 2570 (2021). We commend the important role of the European Union Naval Force Mediterranean Operation IRINI, which objectively enforces the embargo on the high seas. We look forward to renewal of Operation IRINI's mandate next month.

Ireland shares the Secretary-General's concern about the continued arbitrary detention of migrants and refugees, including women and children. This practice should be ended. Measures are also needed to protect detainees from the horrors of sexual violence, assist victims and survivors and ensure that all allegations of sexual violence are effectively investigated and prosecuted.

Accountability must be an important step in Libya's peace process and must be ensured for human rights violations, including the Tarhouna massacres. It is unacceptable that perpetrators of serious international crimes can act with impunity. Yet the recently reported deaths of two International Criminal Court fugitives, before they could be brought before the Court, highlights a lack of accountability. Peace requires justice, and justice is served by cooperation with and assistance to the Court.

In conclusion, I welcome the establishment of the High National Reconciliation Commission to lay the groundwork for a national reconciliation process. Ireland is pleased to share its own experience of reconciliation on our own small island, which remains a work in progress. I echo the Secretary-General's call for an inclusive process based on justice and human rights, which is critical to support long-term peace, stability and social cohesion in Libya.

Annex VIII**Statement by the Deputy Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations, Michael Kiboino**

My delegation is grateful for the briefing by Mr. Ján Kubiš, Special Envoy of the Secretary General on Libya, and Ambassador Tirumurti, Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011), concerning Libya. We also welcome our colleague Ambassador Taher Elsonni, Permanent Representative of Libya, and thank him for his contribution.

Libya stands at the cusp of a major breakthrough in its long and painstaking peace process. We recognize the commendable gains achieved through the sheer resilience and determination of its people. We also commend the efforts of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) and the critical role of neighbouring States, regional organizations and other partners.

The recent adoption of resolutions 2570 (2021) and 2571 (2021) was the required strong voice of the Council. We should now pursue their implementation as we help the Libyan people press stronger towards the intended mark — a peaceful, secure and stable Libya devoid of unnecessary foreign interference.

Kenya takes note of the Secretary-General's report on UNSMIL (S/2021/451) and agrees on the need to ring-fence the political gains made towards the delivery of the 24 December elections.

To inject more impetus into the ongoing process, Kenya emphasizes the need for all parties and Member States to fully respect the ceasefire agreement, including the immediate departure of foreign fighters and mercenaries, and comply with the arms embargo. The Secretariat should, in particular, complete the exercise of detailing the requirements for the deployment of the ceasefire monitoring support envisioned by resolution 2570 (2021).

Kenya also calls for the deployment of a disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) programme in Libya, which should happen alongside security sector reforms. We are willing to share our experience in this regard, based on the implementation of our counter-terrorism and radicalization strategy. However, we must be conscious of the risk of fuelling the cyclical conflict in the region if the envisaged DDR programme is not accompanied by corresponding similar programmes in neighbouring States. It is therefore important that UNSMIL, in its support to Libya on this matter, work in close coordination and consultation with neighbouring States, regional organizations and other interested partners.

Kenya encourages the Government of National Unity to continue working towards the reunification of national institutions for the fulfilment of its commitments to the people.

We also encourage continued investment in national reconciliation. In this regard, we welcome the establishment of the High National Reconciliation Commission and acknowledge the commitment of the African Union in supporting this process.

The continued interception at sea, unfair treatment and return of migrants to Libyan ports, in violation of their basic human rights, is of concern to Kenya. Considering that Libya is not a safe port of return, we call on all those involved to discontinue this practice. Meanwhile, the continuing appalling situation of refugees in Libya calls for urgent attention.

Sanctions should assist in advancing the peace process. It is important that frozen assets be well guarded for the future benefit of the Libyan people and appropriately reviewed, according to resolution 2571 (2021).

We support the implementation of the arms embargo through the renewal of authorizations under resolution 2292 (2016). We urge close consultation with the Government of National Unity in their implementation.

Finally, Kenya calls on all Member States and regional organizations to continue extending support for a truly Libyan-led and -owned peace process in a manner that upholds Libya's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence.

Annex IX**Statement by the Deputy Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations, Alicia Buenrostro Massieu**

[Original: Spanish]

I thank Special Envoy Kubiš and Ambassador Tirumurti of India, in his capacity as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011), concerning Libya, for their briefings. I also welcome the Permanent Representative of Libya to the Security Council.

Since the signing of the ceasefire agreement last October, the Libyan people have succeeded in overcoming multiple obstacles to move towards the reunification of the country and national reconciliation. Despite remaining challenges, particularly in the area of security, the transitional Government, led by Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Mohammed Dbeibah, has made progress in reorganizing the State, and the Libyan economy is on track for a significant recovery this year.

In that regard, Mexico welcomes the progress in the political process that has allowed the formation of the Government of National Unity, the progressive unification of State institutions and the validity of the ceasefire agreement. The positive outcome is the result of the responsible behaviour of Libyan political actors and the excellent work done by the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) to structure the dialogue.

We trust that this constructive attitude will prevail and that the various Libyan political actors will reach the necessary agreements to facilitate the democratic transition through the organization of general elections on 24 December. In that regard, we call for the proposals on a constitutional basis for elections set forth by the legal committee of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum to be discussed and legislation to be enacted by 1 July.

Mexico is pleased that the current draft constitutional basis includes measures to guarantee the representation of women in the legislative branch and provides for the inclusion of young people, refugees, internally displaced persons and the country's cultural diversity. We hope that the virtual meeting to be held next week under the auspices of UNSMIL will allow progress to be made towards the adoption of that draft.

Moreover, a political agreement must be reached within the House of Representatives to adopt a unified budget. That will ensure that the State has the necessary resources to organize the next elections and restore basic services.

Despite the substantive progress we are seeing in the political process, the humanitarian situation remains serious, in particular with regard to migrants. Shipwrecks in recent weeks have claimed the lives of hundreds of people who embarked in Libya with the intention of reaching Europe. Mexico deplores those tragedies and calls on the authorities of the migrants' countries of origin and destination to work in coordination with the Libyan Government and international and regional organizations to assist and protect migrants.

We reiterate our call on the Libyan authorities, with the assistance of UNSMIL and the support of the African Union, to take the necessary measures to bring the weapons accumulated over the years of the conflict under State control. At the same time, the Security Council must insist that the arms embargo be scrupulously observed and punish those who violate it.

The organized departure of foreign combatants is also essential to strengthen the progress made so far and to avert the prospect of a return to hostilities.

The risks of weapons and fighters in Libya moving to other countries in the region are high, and the events of April in Chad, as we already heard, show us the magnitude of the threat. The international community must therefore support the Libyan State and its neighbours in improving control over its southern border.

Mexico has requested the deployment of protection advisers for women and children, as part of the strengthening of UNSMIL's capacity to assist those two groups, which have been particularly affected by the conflict. Having reiterated the appeal in resolution 2570 (2021), adopted with the unanimous support of Council members last month, we hope that the deployment will be effective as soon as possible.

In conclusion, we hope that the strategic review of UNSMIL will be an opportunity to reflect on, among other things, the way in which the gender perspective has been incorporated into the mandate of that mission.

My country, Mexico, reiterates its commitment to lasting peace, with full respect for Libya's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Annex X**Statement by the Permanent Representative of the Niger to the United Nations, Abdou Abarry**

[Original: French]

At the outset, I should like to express my thanks to Mr. Ján Kubiš, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Libya, and to Ambassador T.S. Tirumurti, Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya, for their informative briefings and their ongoing commitment to stabilizing the situation in Libya.

The information they have just provided us allows us to take stock of the situation in Libya in terms of the progress made in implementing the November 2020 road map and the remaining challenges to be overcome in the political and national reconciliation processes.

Six months out from the December 2021 elections, and after over a decade of chaos and division, Libya is at a decisive turning point to succeed in the endeavour of reconciliation among its daughters and sons, healing wounds and laying the foundations for a democratic, peaceful and prosperous future. This is why the resistance and delays observed in implementing certain prescriptions of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum remind us that Libyan political actors must show a renewed spirit of patriotism to overcome final obstacles to the successful completion of the transition process under way.

Against that backdrop, I should like to make the following remarks.

On the security front, after 10 years of civil war, Libya is making progress towards lasting peace thanks to reconciliation efforts led by the Libyans themselves and to the positive support of neighbouring countries and the international community.

The United Nations, through the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), has played a pivotal role. However, we fear that while the guns are silent in Libya, they may resonate more deafeningly in the Sahel, which, it must be said, is suffering its second wave of impact from the situation in Libya. Recent developments in Chad are a perfect illustration of that.

To this end, we recall the crucial need to establish an orderly plan for the withdrawal of foreign fighters and mercenaries from Libya, with a support mechanism for the Sahel countries encompassing security sector reform and, especially, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.

Faced with the threat of sophisticated weapons and well-trained and seasoned combatants spreading across the porous borders of the Sahel countries neighbouring Libya, the first challenge to tackle, therefore, turns out to be securing and monitoring of those borders.

Indeed, since 2018, Chad, the Niger, Libya and the Sudan have been trying to coordinate security at their borders against the threat coming from southern Libya. We therefore call on the Security Council to consider this matter further with due care, with a view to averting possible threats to the integrity of neighbouring countries in the Sahel.

In addition, echoing the ministerial meeting of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union held on 18 May, my delegation reaffirms the importance of respecting the provisions regarding the ceasefire and cessation of violations of the arms embargo.

Moreover, as reflected in the conclusions of the 961st meeting of the Peace and Security Council, we advocate good cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union when it comes to taking steps to support the ceasefire monitoring mechanism in Libya.

On the political front, we welcome the key role played by the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum. This momentum must be kept up to allow for the holding of national elections on 24 December 2021, in accordance with the road map of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum and as requested by resolution 2570 (2021). We commend UNSMIL for its efforts to facilitate and support the finalization of draft constitutional and electoral documents and hope that the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum will consider these at its virtual meeting scheduled for 26 and 27 May so as to allow for their adoption by the July 2021 deadline set by the road map.

My delegation also welcomes the efforts of the co-facilitators of the Berlin Conference working group of the International Follow-up Committee on Libya for the support and sound advice they provide to the actors of the transition with a view to moving the transition process forward.

Moreover, we welcome the holding of municipal elections despite the political, security and pandemic-related challenges, which demonstrates the commitment of Libyans to democratic values and peace.

I cannot end my remarks without expressing my country's concerns about the situation of the estimated 571,000 migrants and refugees in Libya and underscoring the need to review the policy of disembarking migrants and refugees intercepted at sea on Libyan soil. The poor conditions in which women and children find themselves in arbitrary detention centres demands a response from us in more ways than one. This is why the Niger intends to propose that the Council discuss this issue in due course.

For their part, Libya's neighbouring countries should work together with the African Union to promptly lay the groundwork for the convening of the national reconciliation forum, the importance of which to the process of ending the crisis in Libya is now clear to all.

Annex XI**Statement by the Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations, Mona Juul**

I thank Special Envoy Kubiš for his and his team's ongoing work to support the political, security and economic processes under way in Libya. We are pleased to see continued progress on the political track, especially as part of the road map towards December elections.

We welcome the continued steps by both the Government of National Unity and the House of Representatives to sustain the positive momentum. And we encourage continuous focus on the preparations to approve and pass the constitutional and legal framework for elections, and other necessary legislation. In this regard, the adoption of a budget is a critical next step. And we urge the interim government to prioritize measures important to the daily lives of the Libyan people — such as restoring basic services of water, electricity and health care.

We also commend the role of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) and of Special Envoy Kubiš in facilitating the finalization of a draft constitution proposal in advance of the upcoming plenary meeting of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum. Norway fully supports the Libyan people in their quest for peace and reconciliation through an inclusive political process, and we continue to urge the full, equal and meaningful participation of women at all levels, as well as the effective inclusion of voices from youth and civil society groups in all their diversity.

We also welcome the establishment of a High National Reconciliation Commission and the Special Envoy's engagement with the African Union on this issue. Investigating and prosecuting violations of international humanitarian law, and human rights violations and abuses, as well as promoting transitional justice, are critical components of achieving sustainable peace and stability in Libya.

The fact that the ceasefire is still holding remains a positive signal. A safe environment for voting in December is essential to break the military deadlock. Norway welcomes the progress report on the ceasefire monitoring arrangements and commends preparations under way to deploy the UNSMIL ceasefire monitoring component. Norway also welcomes the continued efforts of the 5+5 Joint Military Commission to facilitate the withdrawal of foreign fighters and mercenaries.

The implementation of the ceasefire provisions must be prioritized, including the reopening of the strategic coastal road connecting Misrata with eastern Libya.

In line with these efforts, a comprehensive disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process is also needed for returning foreign fighters, in order to avoid spreading instability in the region. And security sector reform is urgently needed. I would also like to reiterate the obligation of all countries to respect the weapons embargo instituted by this Council. Breaching the embargo only fuels the conflict. We support the European Union Naval Force Mediterranean Operation IRINI in implementing the United Nations arms embargo on Libya.

Norway joins the Special Envoy in expressing our continued concern about the arbitrary detention of migrants and refugees, including children, in formal detention centres.

With an increasing number of migrants crossing the Mediterranean, the number of refugees and migrants in detention is also increasing. Particularly alarming are the reports of torture, sexual violence and abuse within these centres. We welcome the announcement of a 15-member committee to address the issue of arbitrary detention and, as always, urge respect for international humanitarian law and human rights

law. As we enter a season when migration across the Mediterranean is expected to increase, we also need to focus on the prevention of drowning tragedies.

Let me end by reiterating Norway's firm support for the Special Envoy and all the work undertaken to ensure fair and safe elections in December, as well as comprehensive and inclusive political, security and economic processes. As we know, there are many potential spoilers of these efforts, and hurdles remain ahead. It is our responsibility as Council members to provide the Libyans with the support they need.

Annex XII**Statement by the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, Vassily Nebenzia**

[Original: Russian]

I cannot but express our regret over the continuing practice of virtual meetings that the Security Council holds to discuss matters regarding the maintenance of international peace and security. We all know that, as recently as yesterday, the General Assembly stepped up its openness by convening an in-person debate on the Middle East, with the participation of delegations that had arrived from abroad. The city of New York also has lifted some restrictions to fully open on 1 July. However, the Council keeps ignoring those trends, as if trying to hide from the international community.

We call on the Council presidency to take exhaustive measures in order to resume in-person meetings in the Security Council Chamber that meet all relevant safety requirements.

We thank Special Envoy of the Secretary-General Kubiš for his briefing on the situation in Libya. We welcome the participation of the Permanent Representative of Libya, Ambassador Elsonni, at this briefing. We thank the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya, Ambassador Tirumurti, for providing a review of the work of that subsidiary body. In this regard, we would like to express concern over illegal arms trafficking in Libya, a factor that is destabilizing the security situation both inside the country and in the Sahara-Sahel region. We underscore the importance of safeguarding Libya's frozen assets. This issue has become even more urgent in light of third-party attempts to profiteer from Libya's resources. All questions pertaining to control of the oil infrastructure and export operations must be handled by the Libyans themselves.

We are cautiously optimistic about prospective developments in Libya. There has been considerable progress on the political track of the settlement. New authorities have been formed for the transitional period: the Presidency Council and the Government of National Unity. In general, they could assume responsibilities from the former western Libya administration and the interim Government based in the east of the country. This was a landmark step towards resolving the prolonged acute crisis on the basis of a constitutional compromise between the opposing sides.

We hope that the Presidential Council and the Government of National Unity will be able to promptly establish the top-down executive structure and unify State bodies and financial and economic institutions, as well as the armed forces. Once successfully resolved, these tasks will ensure the conditions necessary for the constitutional referendum and general elections, scheduled for 24 December this year.

However, achieving these goals will not be easy. The odds are that, given the heavy burden of Libya's political and socioeconomic problems, the transitional period may take longer than expected. The most important thing Libyans must do now is overcome the mutual distrust caused by many years of conflict, which was to a large extent provoked from the outside back in 2011. We remind our colleagues of this ordeal, for which Libyans continue to pay the price to this very day, and we call on them to refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of independent States, including Libya.

Russia has contributed to the establishment of the ceasefire regime in Libya. We were among the first to welcome the establishment of transitional authorities, with our Foreign Ministry issuing a special statement on that matter. We will

continue to maintain close contacts with the leading political forces of various Libyan regions. The recent progress of the political process can lead to success only when it becomes truly inclusive. The representatives of the former regime and of Libya's eastern regions have an important role to play in this regard. Post-conflict State-building must not leave them behind.

Political settlement in Libya must not be an arena for international competition. We believe that it is essential to take on board the opinion and interests of Libya's neighbouring countries, because they endure the direct consequences of the ongoing crisis and can play a positive constructive role in promoting peaceful settlement.

On 16 April 2021, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 2570 (2021), which expands — as requested by the Libyan sides — the mandate of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya. We proceed from the assumption that United Nations personnel must strictly follow its mandate to monitor the ceasefire. All parameters of such monitoring must be acceptable for Libyans and negotiated with them.

Annex XIII**Statement by the Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations, Inga Rhonda King**

Permit me to extend our appreciation to the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Mr. Ján Kubiš, for his comprehensive briefing, and to thank T. S. Tirumurti, Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya, for presenting the Chair's fortieth report. I also recognize the presence of our distinguished colleague, Taher Elsonni.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reaffirms its unwavering support for the United Nations multitrack process in Libya and appreciates the efforts of the international community, including the initiatives of neighbouring countries and regional organizations.

Approximately a decade following Libya's descent into turmoil, the country is now on the cusp of new beginnings, presenting the ideal opportunity for all Libyans and the international community to reset relations and facilitate lasting peace, stability and sustainable development.

My delegation welcomes the significant progress highlighted in the latest report of the Secretary-General (S/2021/451) and extends its support to the Government of National Unity. We encourage the Government to fulfil its responsibilities in conformity with the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum road map. Prioritizing the reunification of the country, undertaking economic reforms, delivering basic services, finalizing preparations for inclusive, free, fair and transparent national elections and inaugurating a comprehensive national reconciliation process are key for Libya's democratic transformation.

The transitional Government has a very short preparation time frame for the crucial 24 December elections. We encourage the Government of National Unity and the relevant stakeholders to expedite all logistical arrangements and resolve constitutional and legal differences to ensure that elections be conducted in a conducive environment.

We also applaud the ongoing work of the High National Electoral Commission and the complementary efforts of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya.

Successful elections would pave the path for national reconciliation. We are satisfied with the establishment of the High National Reconciliation Commission and renew our support for the collaboration between the African Union and the United Nations in this regard.

Absolute peace in Libya will not be fulfilled until all parties comply strictly with their international obligations and all conflicts are eradicated. In this context, the importance of strictly adhering to the arms embargo and all the relevant resolutions on Libya, including the recently adopted resolutions 2570 (2021) and 2571 (2021), cannot be overstated.

The deeply entrenched presence of foreign fighters and mercenaries on Libyan soil is unacceptable. We are pleased that the 23 October ceasefire agreement continues to hold and note progress in its implementation.

Nevertheless, we are extremely worried about the scant regard in the call for foreign terrorist fighters and mercenaries to depart without delay. We therefore repeat our clarion call for their complete withdrawal. Furthermore, we commend the work of the 5+5 Joint Military Commission in the implementation of the ceasefire agreement and look forward to the operationalization of the Libyan-owned and -led comprehensive ceasefire monitoring mechanism.

Non-compliance with Security Council resolutions and the concomitant security challenges have grave ramifications for Libya, neighbouring countries, the Sahel region and the wider continent. Given Libya's intricate security situation, enhanced cooperation between the Government of National Unity, regional organizations and neighbouring countries, particularly in the development of an efficacious security sector reform and demobilization, disarmament and reintegration programme, is critical.

Beyond the headlines, the human rights and humanitarian situation, exacerbated by the coronavirus disease pandemic, is troubling. The groups made most vulnerable, particularly migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons, also require specific attention. We urge the authorities to facilitate safe humanitarian access to refugees and migrants, as well as to respond adequately to the pandemic. It is also critical that the international community continue contributing to Libya's 2021 humanitarian response plan.

We underscore our support for the Fact-Finding Mission to Libya and its investigation into the mass graves found in Tarhouna, and we repeat our views that Libya is an unsafe port for the disembarkation of refugees and migrants.

Libyans' immediate past has been regrettably laden with suffering. Their resolve and determination, however, with the support of the international community, has brought them to this critical juncture of hope and optimism. It is now time now for Libyans to reconcile and forge a deeper and more harmonious society to improve markedly the overall quality of their lives, through the Libyan-owned and led political process.

In conclusion, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reiterates its support to continue accompanying our brotherly nation in its pursuit of durable peace, reconciliation, reconstruction and sustainable development.

Annex XIV**Statement by the Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations**

[Original: Arabic]

At the outset, I would like to thank Ján Kubiš for his detailed briefing and express our appreciation for his efforts alongside the staff of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) to advance a political settlement in Libya. Tunisia remains committed to doing everything it can to facilitate the work of UNSMIL and its headquarters in Tunis.

My delegation takes note of the report of the Security Council committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya and commends the work done by India as Chair of the Committee since it assumed that role at the beginning of this year.

I also welcome the participation of Taher M. T. Elsonni, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Libya, at this meeting.

Tunisia is pleased that, at this critical stage in the history of Libya, our Libyan brethren are determined to ensure that the political settlement process is successful. We reaffirm the importance of the commitment of all parties to holding legislative and presidential elections as scheduled on 24 December 2021, in accordance with the road map adopted in Tunis, to ensure that the move from the transitional stage to permanent institutions takes place in an environment of freedom, democracy and the rule of law.

In preparation for the upcoming elections, my country welcomes the meeting of the Legal Committee of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum, held in Tunis from 7 to 9 April 2021, and that Committee's tangible progress towards finalizing the draft constitutional basis for the exercise of legislative and executive powers. Tunisia looks forward to the virtual meeting of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum to be held later this month to discuss the Legal Committee's proposed constitutional basis for the elections.

Tunisia stresses that the 1 July 2021 deadline set by the High National Elections Commission for adopting the constitutional basis and the law on elections must be adhered to, in order to allow the Commission to organize these important elections under the best possible circumstances. The necessary support and facilitation must be provided in order to guarantee that the elections are successful.

Tunisia appreciates the commitment of the Libyan parties to respecting the agreement for a complete and permanent ceasefire in Libya and calls for more to be done to implement it fully, including by accelerating the departure of all mercenaries and foreign combatants from Libya. During the interactive dialogue initiated by the African members of the Security Council and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (A3+1) on 29 April 2021, Council members unanimously agreed that foreign fighters and mercenaries must leave Libya immediately, given that their continued presence in the country poses a threat to the security of Libyans, the stability of Libya and the security and stability of neighbouring countries, particularly in the Sahel region.

Tunisia calls on regional and international actors to support the Libyan authorities and the 5+5 Joint Military Commission in their bid to implement the ceasefire agreement, which constitutes a mainstay of the political settlement process.

Tunisia calls upon all the parties concerned to support the establishment of a Libyan-led and Libyan-owned ceasefire monitoring mechanism and looks forward

to the deployment of the UNSMIL ceasefire monitoring component in support of that mechanism, in line with Security Council resolution 2570 (2021).

Tunisia reiterates that all parties must commit to implement the arms embargo imposed on Libya, to refrain from interfering in its internal affairs and to respect its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. In that connection, Tunisia looks forward to the renewal of Security Council 2292 (2016) with a view to enforcing the arms embargo, and it values regional and national efforts to that end.

Tunisia also stresses the importance of respecting international humanitarian law and international human rights law and promoting accountability for serious crimes committed in Libya.

There is a need for a comprehensive and inclusive reconciliation process in Libya. Tunisia therefore welcomes the establishment of the High National Reconciliation Commission and the efforts of the African Union to support national reconciliation in Libya.

Lastly, Tunisia reaffirms its steadfast support for a Libyan-led, Libyan-owned political settlement under United Nations auspices. It is firmly committed to supporting the efforts of Libyan authorities and the aspirations of the Libyan people to democracy, security and reconstruction. Tunisia will continue to assist United Nations and international efforts with a view to guaranteeing the restoration of security and stability that Libya deserves.

Annex XV**Statement by the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations, Barbara Woodward**

I would like to thank Special Envoy Kubiš and Ambassador Tirumurti for their reports and their work.

As we have heard from other colleagues, this is a critical moment for Libya. There is now a pathway to national elections in December and a prospect for longer-term stability. A month ago, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 2570 (2021), which sets out the next steps in four key areas.

First, the relevant Libyan authorities, including Libya's House of Representatives, need to clarify the constitutional basis and any necessary legislation by 1 July in order to allow election preparations to go ahead. We urge the House of Representatives to consider the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum's proposals and to play its part in the process. We note that the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum may also take steps to facilitate elections, if necessary.

Secondly, delivering the successful and inclusive elections that Libyans deserve requires more than just legislation, so the United Kingdom urges the interim Government of National Unity and all the Libyan actors to take the necessary steps to create a conducive environment, with support from the United Nations Support Mission in Libya. This includes measures to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of female candidates and voters. Progress on the unification of institutions, effective service delivery across the country and the transparency of public finances will help build confidence among Libyan actors. The implementation of the Libyan ceasefire is an urgent priority, including opening the coastal road to connect east and west.

Thirdly, the international community must play its part. Those undermining Libyan sovereignty and breaching the United Nations arms embargo must stop. All foreign forces and mercenaries must be withdrawn from Libya without delay. Their presence undermines the peace and stability of Libya and the wider region, as seen in recent events in Chad. We encourage the rapid deployment of the United Nations forward team in support of the Libyan ceasefire monitoring mechanism.

Finally, resolution 2570 (2021) is clear that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of international human rights law must be held accountable. The news of the discovery of further mass graves in Tarhouna, bringing the total to over 100, is shocking. The United Kingdom has imposed sanctions on the Al-Kaniyat militia and its leaders for their role in these heinous acts. Libyans have had enough of impunity, interference and obstruction, and where necessary, we — the international community — must act.

To conclude, Libya has made significant steps towards a sustainable, Libyan-led and Libyan-owned political settlement. The next steps to maintain that momentum are clear. It is now up to Libya's leaders and to the international community to deliver.

Annex XVI

Statement by the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, Linda Thomas-Greenfield

Let me start by thanking Special Envoy Kubiš for his briefing today. I would also like to thank the Ambassador for India for his briefing and welcome the Libyan Permanent Representative for joining us, as well.

Just over a month ago, this Council unanimously adopted resolution 2570 (2021) and renewed the mandate of the Libya sanctions regime in resolution 2571 (2021). We made it clear that free and fair elections must be held on 24 December 2021. Anyone who obstructs or undermines the elections planned for in the Libya Political Dialogue Forum road map may be subject to sanctions.

In the meantime, it is critical that we protect human rights and combat corruption in Libya. For their part, the Libyan people have made tremendous progress towards national reconciliation. Now, they want elections, so it is time for the Libyan leadership to clarify the constitutional basis for the election, pass the required legislation and ensure that elections are not delayed. As Special Envoy Kubiš and others have said, that progress has to happen by 1 July.

Additionally, the 23 October ceasefire agreement must be fully implemented. The Security Council has issued statements supporting the ceasefire and unanimously confirmed and reaffirmed its parameters in April. The United States fully supports the terms of the ceasefire. To that end, all external actors involved in the conflict must cease their military interference and begin to withdraw from Libya immediately. There is no room for interpretation here. All means all.

Further, all external military support inconsistent with the United Nations arms embargo must end — no more training and financing of mercenaries, proxy forces and armed groups. The recent violent instability in Chad underscores the dangers of foreign mercenaries. They cannot remain in Libya. We also fully support the continuation of the European Union Naval Force Mediterranean Operation IRINI. A sovereign Libyan Government, empowered through national elections, will be able to determine the best range of partners for future security cooperation relationships. Resolution 2570 (2021) requests the continued support of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) for the Libyan-led and Libyan-owned ceasefire monitoring mechanism.

We urge the United Nations to identify all necessary and appropriate means to fully support the Joint Military Commission's efforts. We are encouraged by the Commission's continuing to develop its plans for the ceasefire monitoring mechanism — in consultation with UNSMIL — including the deployment of a small number of observers. We also support the investigation of the International Criminal Court (ICC) into the situation in Libya. Those who are subject to arrest warrants by the ICC for charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity — including former senior officials of the Al-Qadhafi regime — must face justice.

Finally, it is time for the leadership of Libya to unify the budget, build anti-corruption institutions and include Libyan civil society and women leaders in the political process. Libya needs a unified budget to provide for the needs of the Libyan people, and the Government needs to implement transparency measures to reach a lasting agreement on the management of oil revenues. In polls, Libyans consistently point to corruption as a deep-rooted problem that must be overcome if Libya is to prosper. The Government of National Unity needs to build institutions that will counter the scourge of corruption and take control away from militias that have abused their positions for personal gain.

The Council has an obligation to support the construction of sovereign institutions that are transparent, technocratic and apolitical, and to punish those who engage in corruption. And as these institutions and others develop in Libya, civil society and women leaders must be included. Their inclusion will help foster peace, ensure equity and advance accountability.

In the spirit of our votes last month, the Council needs to continue to speak with one voice on Libya. Let us do everything we can to help the Government maintain positive momentum as it moves towards national elections on 24 December.

Annex XVII**Statement by the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations, Dang Dinh Quy**

I would like to thank Mr. Jan Kubiš, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Libya, for his comprehensive briefing and Ambassador T.S. Tirumurti for his first briefing in his capacity as Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya. I also welcome Ambassador Taher Elsonni, Permanent Representative of Libya, to this meeting.

Significant progress in Libya in recent months offers a window of opportunity for the pursuit of long-term peace and stability in Libya. The unanimous adoption of resolution 2570 (2021) demonstrated the unified message of the Council on supporting the Libyan-led and owned peace process and the road map towards elections by the end of this year. In this regard, I wish to highlight three following points.

First, we call on the Government of National Unity to put in its best efforts in facilitating the transitional period and make all necessary preparations for the holding of national elections, in line with the agreed road map. It is imperative that the Libyan parties continue to demonstrate a spirit of mutual understanding and trust to advance the political process.

We commend the collaboration among the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), regional organizations, neighbouring countries and other international partners in promoting the peace process in the country. Sustainable peace in Libya will mark a successful story for the people of Libya and of cooperation between the Council and regional organizations in maintaining peace and security. In this regard, the international community should continue to foster dialogue and support confidence-building measures among the relevant parties at this crucial time. We also look forward to increasingly active and meaningful participation by women and youth in the political life of the country.

Secondly, we urge the relevant parties to fully respect and implement the provisions of the ceasefire agreement. This must also go in line with the commitment to uphold the arms embargo in line with the relevant Security Council resolutions on Libya to maintain a conducive environment for the transitional process.

We look forward to the work of UNSMIL in supporting the Libyan-led and Libyan-owned ceasefire monitoring mechanism, as outlined in resolution 2570 (2021). It is important to ensure the safety, security and independence of the Mission's observers.

Furthermore, peacebuilding efforts should also be facilitated to ensure long-lasting peace and development in Libya. We reiterate our support for the withdrawal of all foreign forces and mercenaries from the territory of Libya, in line with the ceasefire agreement and resolution 2570 (2021).

Thirdly, strengthened efforts are needed in addressing the humanitarian and economic challenges in the country. While Libya has achieved economic progress over the past months, over 1.3 million people still require humanitarian assistance due to the consequences of the conflict and the coronavirus disease pandemic. We call on international partners to continue to provide support to vulnerable groups such as women, children and migrants in Libya in addressing their needs and challenges.

In addition, we particularly commend the efforts to clear Libya's coastal roads of mines and explosive remnants of war, with support of the Libyan Mine Action Centre and the United Nations Mine Action Service. It is encouraging

that 120 kilometres of roads have been cleared. We call for further efforts in risk-mitigation to protect civilians from explosive remnants of war.

In conclusion, Viet Nam reaffirms our strong support for the inclusive Libyan-led and Libyan-owned peace process.

Annex XVIII**Statement by the Permanent Representative of Libya to the United Nations, Taher Elsonni**

[Original: Arabic]

At the outset, I would like to thank you for convening this meeting. I also thank Ján Kubiš for his briefing and the Chair of the Security Council committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) on Libya for his report on the activities of the committee.

Today, I speak for the Libyan street, and perhaps also for many other countries in the region, which have tired of all these meetings and briefings and of hearing the same statements time and time again, hoping instead for more practical and realistic steps to be taken to implement the resolutions of the Security Council, which are supposed to be binding, so that we can extricate ourselves from a cycle of conflict that has lasted a decade.

The Presidency Council and the Government of National Unity are working together to take advantage of the positive developments in the situation in Libya. Those developments would not have been possible without sincere local and national efforts and initiatives, or without the support of many countries for a peaceful, political solution, ruling out military solutions that have wrought nothing but havoc and instability in Libya and the region. We therefore call on the international community to seize this local and international momentum to help my country to emerge from its crisis and fulfil the aspiration of the Libyan to build a democratic State based on institutions and the rule of law.

Against that backdrop, we wish to stress the following points:

First, we call on all States to abide by the conclusions of the Berlin Conference on Libya, endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 2510 (2020), 2570 (2021) and 2571 (2021), and to work to support the full implementation of the ceasefire agreement and the conclusions of the 5+5 Joint Military Commission, in particular, the withdrawal of all foreign forces and mercenaries, so as to prevent the will of the people from being pressured and enable the State to extend its sovereignty over all of Libya.

Secondly, the United Nations observer team must retain its role in support of the Military Commission and the latter's conclusions as required. The team must also preserve its civilian character. It must not by any means become a military force on the ground.

Thirdly, we welcome the role of UNSMIL in following up the work of the Legal Committee of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum and the Mission's call for the Forum to meet in the coming days to resolve the proposed constitutional basis for the presidential and parliamentary elections scheduled for 24 December 2021, so that the House of Representatives and the High Council of State can hold their elections in line with the road map, by the deadline of 1 July set by the High National Elections Commission.

Fourthly, we call on the United Nations to immediately send a team to Libya to evaluate electoral support needs, in order directly and promptly to consider the High National Elections Commission's requirements. Doing so will ensure that the elections that will be held in every Libyan city will be successful and transparent, leaving no room for the process or results to be called into question after the elections.

The Government of National Unity is working to implement the mandate set out in the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum road map. The Government is committed to overcoming all the difficulties and obstacles in its path, despite the short period of time available. The Government has been able to unify approximately 80 per cent of executive State institutions fully. During this short period, it has worked to launch some programmes and projects to improve the provision of services to and economic conditions of the citizenry. However, several challenges continue to hinder the implementation of the programmes. The most significant of those obstacles are the failure to make appointments to leadership positions after the consolidation of State institutions and the delay in adopting the regular budget. We are therefore waiting for the House of Representatives and the High Council of State to conduct their elections, each in its area of responsibility, so that the Government can fulfil its promises in an optimal manner. In that context, we welcome the call by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to convene a meeting on the subject next Monday.

We reiterate that peace is a priority and that successful national reconciliation is key to establishing peace. On 5 April 2021, the President and members of the Presidency Council announced the establishment of the High National Reconciliation Commission. The focus of its work is to promote reconciliation, justice, healing rifts and reuniting Libyans by achieving transitional justice and openness and establishing the principle of forgiveness, tolerance and reparation. In that context, a few days ago, the Minister of Justice announced that tangible steps would be taken to release detainees from prisons, starting with the release of 78 detainees. A prisoner exchange was carried out under the auspices of the 5+5 Joint Military Commission a few days ago. The Government is working to release citizens throughout Libya who were imprisoned without being charged, as well as those who have been proven innocent.

In the same vein, we once again call on the African Union, in cooperation with the United Nations, to support the national reconciliation project announced by the Presidency Council. We support the recommendation of the Secretary-General, contained in his recent report, concerning the role of the United Nations and the African Union in any bid to achieve intra-Libyan reconciliation.

Human rights issues in Libya, which are addressed in United Nations reports, including the reports of the Secretary-General, are an important aspect of the work of the Government of National Unity. The Ministry of Justice and other relevant national institutions are working in concert with the Office of the Prosecutor on a number of human rights issues, in order to ensure that the perpetrators of crimes and violators of human rights of all kinds are held accountable. Efforts are also under way to consolidate the principle of non-impunity with reference to the violations and crimes committed by any party since 2011.

With regard to the question of illegal migration, which is mentioned in the most recent report of the Secretary-General, while we are determined to ensure the safety of migrants and protect them from violations, we also reaffirm our consistent rejection of any endeavour to reduce the issue to the circumstances and suffering of migrants in Libya during conflict, without also mentioning that the international community bears some responsibility for its inability to address the root causes of the problem, deal with countries of origin and destination, and combat and punish human traffickers and their cross-border networks. Only the situation of migrants in shelters is discussed. That is an important matter; but we must not forget that migrants in shelters account for 5 per cent of the total number migrants in Libya, who perish in the desert or at sea in pursuit of a better life in Europe. Those cases are never discussed.

We therefore echo the Secretary-General's call on international partners to reconsider their migration policies. The partners often see Libya as a safe haven for

migrants. They adopt a strategy of intercepting migrants at sea, forcing them to return to Libya and refusing to receive them in their territory. If the unstable humanitarian situation in Libya worries you, make a positive and effective contribution to Libyan stability and stop intervening in a detrimental manner so that we can accommodate our brethren by lawful means.

The Security Council has pledged to preserve the frozen Libyan assets, which belong to the Libyan people. We object to the manner in which some countries are taking advantage of the decision to freeze Libyan assets and attempting to seize them without returning them to the Libyan people. We therefore warn those countries that we will initiate legal proceedings against them if such attempts continue.

As we have said before, we ask that the sanctions regime be amended in a manner that would enable the Libyan Investment Authority to manage those funds without lifting the freeze on them now, and that would make it possible, under the exceptions provided for in the applicable sanctions regime, to benefit from those resources on an exceptional basis by investing them to remedy the humanitarian crises ravaging the country, especially in the areas of electricity, energy and health services; the latter face the strain of combating the coronavirus disease pandemic.

Lastly, we once again hope that the Council will play a positive and more effective role in supporting the Libyan consensus and that it will work to end all forms of interference in Libya. We call on all parties to stop shielding the spoilers, whether individuals or entities, some of whom are still trying to sabotage the political process and plunge Libya back into chaos, out of fear of losing their influence and having their power usurped by the Libyan people through a free and direct democratic process.
