



Security Council

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Letter dated 28 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 refer to Security Council resolution 2577 (2021), in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”. The resolution was adopted on 28 May 2021 in accordance with the voting procedure set out in the letter by the President of the Security Council dated 27 March 2020 (S/2020/253), a procedure agreed in light of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

My letter dated 27 May 2021, addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council (annex 1), putting to the vote the draft resolution contained in document S/2021/509 (enclosure to annex 1);

Letters in reply received from Security Council members indicating their national positions on the draft resolution (annexes 2 to 16);

Statements subsequently submitted by Security Council members providing explanations of their votes (annexes 17 to 22).

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

(Signed) **Zhang Jun**

President of the Security Council



Annex 1

Letter dated 27 May 2021 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council

In accordance with the procedure agreed upon by the Members of the Security Council in light of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, as set out in the letter dated 27 March 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to all members of the Council (S/2020/253), I would like to draw your attention to the following.

The members of the Council have discussed a draft resolution, submitted by the United States of America, in connection with the agenda item "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan". That draft resolution, contained in document S/2021/509 and enclosed herein, has been put into blue.

In my capacity as President of the Security Council, I hereby put the above-mentioned draft resolution to a vote. The non-extendable 24-hour voting period for this draft resolution will begin at 4 p.m. on Thursday, 27 May 2021. The non-extendable 24-hour voting period will expire at 4 p.m. on Friday, 28 May 2021.

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

It is my intention to circulate a letter listing the outcome of the vote within three hours of the conclusion of the 24-hour voting period. I also intend to convene a video-teleconference of the Security Council to announce the outcome of the vote shortly after the conclusion of the voting period, on the afternoon of Friday, 28 May 2021.

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

Enclosure

United Nations

S/2021/509



Security Council

Provisional
27 May 2021

Original: English

United States of America: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions, statements of its President, and press statements on the situation in South Sudan,

Affirming its support for the 2018 “Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan” (the Revitalised Agreement), *stressing* that the peace process only remains viable with the full commitment by all parties, and *welcoming* in this regard encouraging developments in implementing the Revitalized Agreement, including reconstituting the Transitional National Legislative Assembly, in order to create the conditions necessary to advance the peace process,

Expressing appreciation for the leadership of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in advancing the peace process in South Sudan, *commending* the ongoing mediation by the Community of Sant’Egidio to foster political dialogue between signatories and non-signatories of the Revitalised Agreement, and *calling on* South Sudanese parties to demonstrate the political will to peacefully resolve the outstanding differences that are driving continued violence,

Recognizing the reduction in violence between signatory parties to the Revitalised Agreement and that the permanent ceasefire was upheld in most parts of the country between those parties,

Reiterating its alarm and deep concern regarding the political, security, economic, and humanitarian crisis in South Sudan, *taking note* of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and *emphasizing* there can be no military solution to the situation in South Sudan,

Expressing deep concern at continued fighting in South Sudan, and *condemning* repeated violations of the Revitalised Agreement and the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities, Protection of Civilians and Humanitarian Access (ACOH);

Expressing concern regarding the delays in implementing the Revitalised Agreement, and *stressing* the need to expeditiously finalize security arrangements, establish all institutions of the Revitalised Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGNU), and make progress on transitional reforms,

Strongly condemning past and ongoing human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law, further condemning harassment and targeting of civil society, humanitarian personnel and journalists, emphasizing that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law and violations

and abuses of human rights must be held accountable, and that the RTGNU bears the primary responsibility to protect its population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity,

Expressing deep concern at reports of misappropriation of funds that undermine the stability and security of South Sudan, and *stressing* that these activities can have a devastating impact on society and individuals, weaken democratic institutions, undermine the rule of law, perpetuate violent conflicts, facilitate illegal activities, divert humanitarian assistance or complicate its delivery, and undermine economic markets,

Also expressing grave concern at the threat to peace and security in South Sudan arising from the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons,

Strongly encouraging the South Sudan authorities to improve their engagement with the Panel of Experts and prevent any obstruction to the implementation of its mandate,

Taking note of the Final 2021 report (S/2021/365) of the United Nations Panel of Experts,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on South Sudan arms embargo benchmarks (S/2021/321).

Determining that the situation in South Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

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

Arms Embargo and Inspections

1. *Decides* to renew until 31 May 2022 the measures on arms imposed by paragraph 4 of resolution 2428 (2018), and reaffirms the provisions of paragraph 5 of resolution 2428 (2018);

2. *Expresses* its readiness to review arms embargo measures, through inter alia modification, suspension, or progressive lifting of these measures, in the light of progress achieved on the following key benchmarks:

(a) the completion, by the RTGNU, of Stages 1, 2, and 3 of the Strategic Defense and Security Review (SDSR) process contained in the Revitalised Agreement;

(b) the formation, by the RTGNU, of a unified command structure for the Necessary Unified Forces (NUF), the training, graduation, and redeployment of the NUF, and allocation by the RTGNU of adequate resources for the planning and implementation of the redeployment of the NUF;

(c) progress, by the RTGNU, on the establishment and implementation of the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) process, and in particular the development and implementation of a plan for the collection and disposal of long and medium range heavy weapons, and the development of a time-bound plan for the complete and verifiable demilitarization of all civilian areas;

(d) progress by the South Sudanese defense and security forces on properly managing their existing arms and ammunition stockpiles, including by establishing the necessary planning documents, protocols, and training for the recording, storage, distribution and management of the weapons and ammunition;

(e) the implementation of the Joint Action Plan for the Armed Forces on addressing conflict-related sexual violence, with an emphasis on the training, sensitization, accountability, and oversight of the defense and security forces;

3. *Calls on* the RTGNU to make progress on implementation of public finance management reforms in the Revitalised Agreement, including by making information on all revenues, expenditures, deficits, and debts of the RTGNU accessible to the public; and *further calls on* the RTGNU to establish the Hybrid Court for South Sudan, and set up the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation, and Healing and the Compensation and Reparation Authority;

4. *Requests* in this regard the Secretary-General, in close consultation with UNMISS and the Panel of Experts, to conduct, no later than 15 April 2022, an assessment of progress achieved on the key benchmarks established in paragraph 2;

5. *Requests* the South Sudan authorities to report, no later than 15 April 2022, to the Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan (“the Committee”) on the progress achieved on the key benchmarks in paragraph 2, and *invites* the South Sudan authorities to report on progress achieved on implementation of reforms in paragraph 3;

6. *Stresses* the importance that notifications or requests for exemptions pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 2428 (2018) should contain all relevant information, including the purpose of the use, the end user, the technical specifications and quantity of the equipment to be shipped and, when applicable, the supplier, the proposed date of delivery, mode of transportation and itinerary of shipments;

7. *Underscores* that arms shipments in violation of this resolution risk fueling conflict and contributing to further instability, and strongly urges all Member States to take urgent action to identify and prevent such shipments within their territory;

8. *Calls upon* all Member States, in particular States neighboring South Sudan, to inspect, in accordance with their national authorities and legislation and consistent with international law, in particular the law of the sea and relevant international civil aviation agreements, all cargo to South Sudan, in their territory, including seaports and airports, if the State concerned has information that provides reasonable grounds to believe the cargo contains items the supply, sale, or transfer of which is prohibited by paragraph 4 of resolution 2428 (2018) for the purpose of ensuring strict implementation of these provisions;

9. *Decides* to authorize all Member States to, and that all Member States shall, upon discovery of items the supply, sale, or transfer of which is prohibited by paragraph 4 of resolution 2428 (2018), seize and dispose (such as through destruction, rendering inoperable, storage or transferring to a State other than the originating or destination States for disposal) of such items, and decides further that all Member States shall cooperate in such efforts;

10. *Requires* any Member State when it undertakes an inspection pursuant to paragraph 7 of this resolution, to submit promptly an initial written report to the Committee containing, in particular, explanation of the grounds for the inspections, the results of such inspections, and whether or not cooperation was provided, and, if prohibited items for supply, sale, or transfer are found, further requires such Member States to submit to the Committee within 30 days a subsequent written report containing relevant details on the inspection, seizure, and disposal, and relevant details of the transfer, including a description of the items, their origin and intended destination, if this information is not in the initial report;

Targeted Sanctions

11. *Decides* to renew until 31 May 2022 the travel and financial measures imposed by paragraphs 9 and 12 of resolution 2206 (2015), and reaffirms the provisions

of paragraphs 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15 of resolution 2206 (2015), and paragraphs 13, 14, 15 and 16 of resolution 2428 (2018);

12. *Decides* to keep the measures renewed in paragraph 10 under continuous review in light of progress achieved implementing all provisions of the Revitalised Agreement and developments related to human rights violations and abuses, and expresses its readiness to consider adjusting measures in paragraph 10, including through modifying, suspending, lifting or strengthening measures to respond to the situation;

13. *Underscores* its willingness to impose targeted sanctions in order to support the search for an inclusive and sustainable peace in South Sudan, and *notes* that the Committee can consider requests for delisting of individuals and entities;

14. *Reaffirms* that the provisions of paragraph 9 of resolution 2206 (2015) apply to individuals, and that the provisions of paragraph 12 of resolution 2206 (2015) apply to individuals and entities, as designated for such measures by the Committee, as responsible for or complicit in, or having engaged in, directly or indirectly, actions or policies that threaten the peace, security or stability of South Sudan, and *further reaffirms* that the provisions of paragraphs 9 and 12 of resolution 2206 (2015) apply to individuals, as designated for such measures by the Committee, who are leaders or members of any entity, including any South Sudanese government, opposition, militia, or other group, that has, or whose members have, engaged in any of the activities described in this paragraph;

15. *Expresses* concern at reports of misappropriation and diversion of public resources which pose a risk to the peace, security, and stability of South Sudan, expresses serious concern at reports of financial impropriety, lack of transparency, oversight and financial governance, which pose a risk to the peace, stability, and security of South Sudan, and are out of compliance with Chapter IV of the Revitalised Agreement, and in this context, *underscores* that individuals engaged in actions or policies that have the purpose or effect of expanding or extending the conflict in South Sudan may be listed for travel and financial measures;

Sanctions Committee and Panel of Experts

16. *Emphasizes* the importance of holding regular consultations with concerned Member States, international and regional and subregional organizations, as well as the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), as may be necessary, in particular neighboring and regional States, in order to ensure the full implementation of the measures in this resolution, and in that regard encourages the Committee to consider, where and when appropriate, visits to selected countries by the Chair and/or Committee members;

17. *Decides* to extend until 1 July 2022 the mandate of the Panel of Experts as set out in paragraph 19 of resolution 2428 (2018), and decides that the Panel of Experts should provide to the Council, after discussion with the Committee, an interim report by 1 December 2021, a final report by 1 May 2022, and except in months when these reports are due, updates each month;

18. *Requests* the Secretariat to include the necessary gender expertise on the Panel of Experts, in line with paragraph 6 of resolution 2242 (2015), and encourages the Panel to integrate gender as a cross-cutting issue across its investigations and reporting;

19. *Calls upon* all parties and all Member States, especially those neighboring South Sudan, as well as international, regional and subregional organizations to ensure cooperation with the Panel of Experts, including by providing any information on illicit transfers of wealth from South Sudan into financial, property and business

networks and *further urges* all Member States involved to ensure the safety of the members of the Panel of Experts and unhindered access, in particular to persons, documents and sites in order for the Panel of Experts to execute its mandate;

20. *Requests* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative for Sexual Violence in Conflict to share relevant information with the Committee in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 1960 (2010) and paragraph 9 of resolution 1998 (2011), and invites the High Commissioner for Human Rights to share relevant information with the Committee, as appropriate;

21. *Encourages* timely information exchange between UNMISS and the Panel of Experts, and requests UNMISS to assist the Committee and the Panel of Experts, within its mandate and capabilities;

22. *Invites* the Revitalised Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (RJMEC) to share relevant information with the Council, as appropriate, on its assessment of the parties' implementation of the Revitalised Agreement, adherence to the ACOH, and the facilitation of unhindered and secure humanitarian access;

23. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

Annex 2

Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I would like to thank you and your team for the strong support in facilitating the voting procedure.

Please be kindly informed that China votes in favour of the draft resolution (S/2021/509) submitted by the United States of America on the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”. Attached herewith is the explanation of vote.

(Signed) **Zhang Jun**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations

Annex 3**Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the United Nations Charter, my delegation votes in favour of the Security Council draft resolution (S/2021/509) on the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on Sudan and South Sudan”.

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

Annex 4

Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

I refer to the letter dated 27 May 2021 from the Chinese presidency of the Security Council, calling on the members of the Security Council to vote on the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”, put into blue under the symbol S/2021/509. France votes in favour.

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

Annex 5**Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 27 May 2021 on the beginning of the voting procedure for the draft resolution contained in document S/2021/509 in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”.

In accordance with the procedure for adoption of resolutions of the Security Council being in place during the restrictions on movement in New York due to the COVID-19 pandemic outlined in the letter dated 27 March 2020 (S/2020/ 253) by the President of the Security Council, I have the honour to inform you that India abstains in the voting on this draft resolution. Our explanation of vote is also attached herewith.

(Signed) T.S. **Tirumurti**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations

Annex 6

Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 27 May 2021, on the beginning of the voting procedure for the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”, document S/2021/509.

In accordance with the procedure for the adoption of resolutions of the Security Council for the duration of the restrictions of movement in New York due to the COVID-19 pandemic, outlined in the letter of the President of the Security Council of 27 March 2020 (S/2020/253), I have the honour to inform you that Ireland votes in favour of the draft resolution contained in document S/2021/509.

(Signed) **Geraldine Byrne Nason**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations

Annex 7**Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to refer to the draft resolution (S/2021/509) submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”.

In this respect, I wish to inform you that Kenya abstains in the voting on the above-mentioned draft resolution.

(Signed) **Martin Kimani**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations

Annex 8

Letter dated 27 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to the letter dated 27 May 2021, regarding the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”, submitted by the United States and contained in document S/2021/509.

In accordance with the procedure outlined in the letter dated 27 March 2020 of the President of the Security Council (S/2020/253) for the adoption of resolutions of the Security Council, I have the honour to inform you that Mexico votes in favour of the aforementioned draft resolution.

(Signed) **Juan Ramón de la Fuente Ramírez**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations

Annex 9**Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of the Niger to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I am writing in response to the letter of the President of the Security Council dated 27 May 2021, calling on the members of the Council to express their votes on the draft resolution (S/2021/509) presented by the United States of America under the item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”.

In accordance with the agreed temporary procedures for the adoption of resolutions during the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, I have the honour to indicate that the Republic of the Niger decides to vote in favour of the said draft resolution.

(Signed) Abdou **Abarry**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Niger to the United Nations

Annex 10

Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to the President of the Security Council's letter of 27 May 2021, relating to the draft resolution contained in document S/2021/509 in connection with the agenda item "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan".

In accordance with the procedure set forth for the adoption of resolutions under the current circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, I am pleased to inform you that Norway votes in favour of this draft resolution.

(Signed) Mona **Juul**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations

Annex 11**Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 27 May 2021, on the beginning of the voting procedure for the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan” (S/2021/509).

In accordance with the procedure for the adoption of resolutions of the Security Council being in place during the duration of the restrictions on movement in New York due to the COVID-19 pandemic outlined in a letter by the President of the Security Council of 27 March 2020 (S/2020/253), I have the honour to inform you that the Russian Federation votes in favour of draft resolution S/2021/509.

(Signed) Vassily **Nebenzia**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations

Annex 12

Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the draft resolution (S/2021/509) submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”.

In this respect, I wish to inform you that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines votes in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution, and attaches herewith its explanation of vote.

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

Annex 13**Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

Further to the letter dated 27 May 2021 emanating from the Permanent Representative of China, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”, as contained in document S/2021/509, I would like to inform you that Tunisia votes in favour of that draft resolution.

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

Annex 14

Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to the letter from the President of the Security Council of 27 May 2021, the United Kingdom votes in favour of the draft resolution (S/2021/509) on "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan".

(Signed) Jonathan **Allen**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland to the United Nations

Annex 15**Letter dated 27 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

On the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan” (S/2021/509), the United States of America votes in favour.

(Signed) Linda **Thomas-Greenfield**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the
United Nations

Annex 16

Letter dated 28 May 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In reference to the letter of the President of the Security Council of 27 May 2021 relating to the draft resolution under the agenda item entitled “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”, as contained in document S/2021/509, I would like to hereby inform you that Viet Nam votes in favour of the said draft resolution.

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

Annex 17**Statement by the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations**

[Original: Chinese]

The political process in South Sudan has made positive progress recently and the security situation has also greatly improved. As the primary body for the maintenance of international peace and security, the Security Council should send positive messages, lift sanctions against South Sudan as soon as possible and encourage the parties in South Sudan to pursue their active engagement in the political process in order to maintain the current good momentum.

China has noted that resolution 2577 (2021) sets a benchmark for reviewing the arms embargo on South Sudan. It is hoped that the Secretariat and all parties concerned will, in a constructive spirit, objectively and fairly assess the situation on the ground based on these benchmarks and lift the arms embargo as soon as possible.

It should be stressed that China does not support the arms embargo on South Sudan, and this position remains unchanged. We hope that the Security Council will make timely and effective adjustments to the relevant measures taken against South Sudan in the light of the changes in the situation in the country, help all parties in South Sudan advance the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, and promote governance and security capacity-building in South Sudan.

Annex 18**Statement by the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations**

The Republic of South Sudan is a young sovereign nation emerging from the ravages of civil war. Progress has been slow but steady since the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan in September 2018. In recent months, there have been appointments to gubernatorial positions and the constitution of regional administrative structures. There has also been notable improvement in the functioning of important Government institutions. The Council of Ministers is meeting regularly and national institutions have begun to show their presence at the ground level. Protection of Civilian sites have also seen a smooth transition to internally displaced persons camps. The appointments by the opposition have also adhered to the 35 per cent quota for women. South Sudan has also been playing an important role in bringing about peace in the Sudan. South Sudan has been seeking the easing and lifting of the arms embargo imposed in 2018. This request has been supported by the African Union as well.

In this context, we note that resolution 2577 (2021) has imposed certain benchmarks for the lifting or easing of the arms embargo, without taking into consideration positive developments in South Sudan. Some of these benchmarks are administrative in nature and disregard the genuine challenges that South Sudan is currently faced with. The linking of legislative and administrative measures to the lifting of the arms embargo would need to be carefully evaluated as it is restrictive. However, we also recognize that the security situation continues to remain fragile.

Annex 19**Statement by the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations**

Kenya's commitment to the South Sudan peace process needs no explanation. Kenya hosted and facilitated the protracted negotiations culminating in the historic 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement that eventually led to the birth of the South Sudan as a country in 2011.

Kenya has faithfully stood with the people of South Sudan since the start of the conflict in 2013. As a guarantor of the Revitalized Agreement for the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, we continue to walk with the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity and all the stakeholders towards sustainable peace and stability. In this process, we have partnered with neighbouring countries within the framework of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the African Union (AU), the United Nations and other partners, including the troika — the United States of America, the United Kingdom and Norway — which have made a significant contribution to this endeavour.

Having walked this journey, we have a clear understanding of the strides that South Sudan has achieved towards peace and stability. We appreciate that much ground remains to be covered and that South Sudan requires more continued support from the region and the international community.

It is Kenya's belief that the arms embargo and targeted sanctions have not been effective tools in support of the South Sudan peace process. Indeed, they have in certain cases been counterproductive. In this regard, IGAD and the African Union have repeatedly called for the lifting of all sanctions on South Sudan.

During the negotiations for the renewal of the South Sudan sanctions resolution, we reiterated the position of the African Union, insisting that any edits of the draft (S/2021/509) should be aimed at their eventual lifting. Kenya highly appreciates the patience, flexibility and the accommodation demonstrated by the penholder and all members.

The new resolution 2577 (2021) is an improvement on the preceding resolution. However, Kenya strongly believes that more flexibility could have been extended to make the eventual lifting of the sanctions realistic and certain. For this reason, Kenya has chosen to abstain in the voting to demonstrate our keen interest in seeing the arms embargo and targeted measures lifted, as called for by the AU and IGAD.

Kenya reaffirms its intention to continue working with the penholder and the members of the Council on the South Sudan peace process. We will redouble our efforts in supporting the Government and the people of South Sudan to consolidate the peace in the country and to put more effort into expeditiously attaining all the benchmarks so that it will no longer be necessary to extend the arms embargo and targeted sanctions when the resolution comes up for review.

Annex 20**Statement by the Permanent Mission of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines thanks the United States of America for its efforts in preparing resolution 2577 (2021).

My delegation welcomes the progress in South Sudan during the last year, as highlighted in the Secretary-General's latest report (S/2021/172). The formation of the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity, the reduction in political violence, the maintenance of the ceasefire and the renewed commitment to implementing the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan to advance the peace process are encouraging.

South Sudan is moving in the right direction, as exemplified by its mediating role in the Juba Peace Agreement. We therefore encourage the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity to continue to stay the course during this delicate transitional phase so as to enable the full implementation of the revitalized agreement.

Undoubtedly, numerous challenges linger. The international community has a responsibility to continue accompanying South Sudan, especially through the provision of technical assistance, capacity-building and financial support to assist in addressing security and socioeconomic deficiencies.

From our perspective, the positive political developments we are witnessing are not attributable to the sanctions — multilateral nor unilateral — imposed on the youngest nation amongst us. They are consequences of the political will and resolve of the South Sudanese people to transform their country. We continue to appeal for the lifting of these measures, underscoring particularly that unilateral sanctions are incompatible with international law and further undermine the country's capacity to respond appropriately to the socioeconomic challenges and the pandemic.

We also share the perspectives of the African Union and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, which are closest to the situation, and encourage the Council to consider the views of these regional partners, which that are, have been and continue to be key to the peace process in South Sudan.

The continuation of sanctions on South Sudan without any cogent efforts towards eventually lifting them would have grave ramifications for the entire peace process. This was our position on this very renewal a year ago, and we strongly uphold the same views today. United Nations sanctions regimes should be continually reviewed and amended, and once the purposes for which they were created are fulfilled — or beyond this, if there is no positive impact of the sanctions on the ground — they should be effectively terminated. They should also benefit the entire political process.

The recent improvements in the political and security situation compel the Council to evaluate the effectiveness of the entire sanctions regime imposed on South Sudan, not only the arms embargo.

The resolution at hand initiates a process. It provides benchmarks that will evaluate the arms embargo on South Sudan with the view that they will be lifted as soon as possible. This posture guided our decision to vote in favour of the resolution.

To be very clear, our vote should in no way be construed as endorsement of the status quo regarding the sanctions regime on South Sudan.

Finally, we encourage the Council to consider the historical context of South Sudan going forward, as well as its socioeconomic realities in determining the renewal of the sanctions regime.

We remain in full solidarity with the Government and the people of South Sudan.

Annex 21**Statement by the Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations**

In less than two months, South Sudan will celebrate the tenth anniversary of its independence. The date of 9 July 2011 marked a milestone in the aspirations of the South Sudanese for greater stability and prosperity for all its people. Much more needs to be done to achieve these goals. Resolution 2577 (2021), which the Council adopted today to renew the United Nations sanctions regime for South Sudan — to include an arms embargo, targeted measures, and the mandate of the Panel of Experts — continues to play a critical role in decreasing conflict and promoting peace.

The United States thanks members of the Security Council for their constructive engagement on this resolution, including on the creation of benchmarks that can guide the Council in reviewing sanctions measures. We hope that these benchmarks encourage will South Sudan's Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity to make important progress on implementing the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, and ultimately ending the conflict that has been so devastating for South Sudan.

The United States welcomes progress in South Sudan's peace process and we encourage South Sudan's leaders to build on recent efforts to reconstitute the Transitional National Legislative Assembly. The implementation of security sector reforms is essential, including the establishment of a unified command structure and the redeployment of trained, unified forces.

We continue to recognize the dedicated diplomacy of the region, which is working to build peace in South Sudan. The role of the African Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and other regional players has been and will remain essential.

We urge South Sudan's leaders to remain focused on addressing the urgent humanitarian needs of their people, respecting human rights and ensuring accountability, including for sexual and gender-based violence. Too many people — especially women and children — continue to suffer from ongoing violence. This resolution works to safeguard their rights, as we retain the ability to designate individuals and entities for human rights violations and abuses and to deter efforts of spoilers to the peace process.

The United States looks forward to continuing its close cooperation with the Security Council, South Sudan, the United Nations and other stakeholders in support of peace, stability, justice and development in South Sudan.

Annex 22**Statement by the Permanent Mission of Viet Nam to the United Nations**

Viet Nam welcomes the continued encouraging developments in South Sudan since the beginning of 2021, particularly with the reconstitution of the Transitional Legislative National Assembly. At the same time, we are aware of the difficulties and challenges that this young nation is facing, particularly in the need to address intercommunal violence issues and to make more concrete progress on the transitional process and the security arrangements.

As Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan, Viet Nam has closely cooperated with members of the Committee, South Sudan, the African Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the Panel of Experts with the goal of facilitating the effective implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions and contributing to peace, stability and development in South Sudan.

Viet Nam reiterates its position that Security Council sanctions should only be a tool to promote sustainable peace, security and development, and shall not affect the development of a country or the livelihood of its people. Sanctions should be lifted as soon as the conditions are met.

In this regard, we acknowledge that resolution 2577 (2021) recognizes the need to continuously review the measures and established benchmarks for the review of the arms embargo, with a view to lifting it based on progress on the ground. We would like to thank the penholder for incorporating inputs to that effect put forth by Viet Nam and other members.

Therefore, after careful consideration, Viet Nam decided to vote in favour of resolution 2577 (2021). We sincerely hope that the adoption of this resolution will contribute to the achievement of long-term peace and stability in South Sudan.

Viet Nam will continue to work closely with relevant Member States, the United Nations, IGAD and the African Union in providing support to the transitional process in South Sudan, with the aim of facilitating the review and subsequent lifting of the sanctions measures. We call on all other Council Members to do the same.
