



Security Council

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Letter dated 12 March 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 2568 (2021), related to the agenda item “The situation in Somalia” and adopted on 12 March 2021. Resolution 2568 (2021) was adopted in accordance with the voting procedure set out in the letter dated 27 March 2020 from the President of the Security Council (S/2020/253), a procedure agreed in the light of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease pandemic.

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

My letter dated 11 March 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/2021/243 (enclosure to annex 1));

Letters received in reply from the members of the Security Council 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 20);

A statement subsequently submitted by Somalia (annex 21).

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

(Signed) Linda **Thomas-Greenfield**
President of the Security Council



Annex 1

Letter dated 11 March 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 the light of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease pandemic, as set out in the letter dated 27 March 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to 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 Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Somalia”. That draft resolution, contained in document S/2021/243 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 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, 11 March 2021. The non-extendable 24-hour voting period will expire at 2.30 p.m. on Friday, 12 March 2021.

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

It is my intention to circulate a letter listing the outcome of the vote within three hours of the conclusion of the 24-hour voting period. I also intend to convene a video-teleconference of the Security Council to announce the outcome of the vote shortly after the conclusion of the voting period, on the afternoon of Friday, 12 March 2021.

(Signed) Linda **Thomas-Greenfield**
President of the Security Council

Enclosure

United Nations

S/2021/243



Security Council

Provisional
12 March 2021

Original: English

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions and statements of its President on the situation in Somalia,

Reaffirming its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, and unity of Somalia,

Welcoming the response of the international community to address instability and insecurity in Somalia, and *commending* the African Union's leadership of this response,

Welcoming the progress achieved in Somalia so far, and *commending* the Somali people, the Somali authorities, the African Union, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and its troop contributing countries, the United Nations and Somalia's other international partners for their role in this,

Reiterating that the immediate and pressing threat to the stability and security of Somalia, to the Somali people and to Somalia's neighbours is posed by Al Shabaab and armed opposition groups, *condemning in the strongest possible terms* their attacks in Somalia and beyond, and *expressing deep concern* at the loss of civilian life from these attacks,

Paying tribute to the bravery and sacrifices made by AMISOM and Somali Security Forces (SSF) personnel in the fight against Al Shabaab, and *commending* the contribution of AMISOM to building lasting peace and stability in Somalia,

Welcoming the support provided by the United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS) to AMISOM and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) and *recognising* the complementary work of the United Nations Panel of Experts for Somalia and the role of sanctions imposed by the United Nations Security Council, as, amongst other things, a non-military means of degrading Al Shabaab, and armed opposition groups,

Recognising that the situation in Somalia has evolved since it first authorised AMISOM 14 years ago, including the threat posed by Al Shabaab, *further recognising that military* action alone will not overcome this threat, *reiterating* the need, therefore, to pursue an approach that addresses stabilisation and governance challenges, including addressing gaps related to public administration, rule of law, combating

organised crime, justice and law enforcement, and preventing and countering violent extremism conducive to terrorism, alongside security sector reform and military operations, *noting* in this regard the potential of international cooperation and support for peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction and development in Somalia if provided in line with priorities defined by its government and *further noting* in this regard African Union Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (AUPCRD) policy and the AUPCRD dedicated Centre in Cairo,

Recalling that the Somali authorities have the primary responsibility for ensuring security in their country, *welcoming* the FGS's commitment to conduct joint operations with AMISOM in order to become the primary security provider in Somalia, but *noting* that Somalia is not yet in a position to take full responsibility for its own security and that degrading Al Shabaab and armed opposition groups and building and sustaining peace will therefore require continued regional and international collaboration and support, *stressing* that this support should be in-line with the direction provided by the Somalia,

Emphasising the importance of building the capacity of Somali forces and institutions so they are able to manage current and future threats, *further emphasising* the importance of effective coordination between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and its Federal Member States (FMS) and international partners in order to ensure such capacity building is coherent and aligned with the direction provided by Somalia and enables the SSF to assume progressively greater responsibility for Somalia's security,

Underlining the critical importance of the FGS and FMS reaching inclusive political agreements, *expressing concern* at the delays in finalising arrangements for elections in 2021 and *urging* them to organise free, fair, credible and inclusive elections, in line with the 17 September 2020 agreement, as soon as possible, *further urging* them to collaborate on security and other national priorities, *noting* the responsibilities of all parties to improve cooperation and engage in FGS-led discussions, and *underscoring* that full cooperation of all parties would advance progress on national priorities including the implementation of the National Security Architecture, revised Somalia Transition Plan, ensuring a fully functioning federal system and finalising the constitution as the legal and political foundation for Somalia's government and institutions,

Recalling its resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions, *recognising* the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and *stressing* the importance of their full, equal and meaningful participation and involvement in all efforts at all levels for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making and leadership with regard to conflict prevention and resolution as envisaged in the Somali Women's Charter,

Condemning violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law in Somalia, *calling* on all parties to act in full compliance with their obligations under international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and *recalling* the Working Group Conclusions on Children and Armed Conflict in Somalia (S/AC.51/2020/6),

Expressing serious concern at the humanitarian situation in Somalia and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, floods and the desert locust upsurge *recognising* that these present a challenge to Somalia's health system, agriculture, socio-economic situation and humanitarian situation, *calling* for all parties to the conflict to allow and facilitate, in accordance with relevant provisions of international law, including applicable international humanitarian law, and in a manner consistent with the

United Nations guiding principles of humanitarian emergency assistance, including humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence, the provision of humanitarian assistance necessary to support Somalia, *noting with appreciation* the measures taken by AMISOM and the United Nations to ensure the safety and security of AMISOM and United Nations personnel whilst maintaining continuity of operations, *calling* for continued efforts to mitigate the impact of the pandemic and locust-infestation, and *welcoming* the role played by AMISOM in supporting Somali-led disaster management and relief efforts and their efforts to create conditions conducive to the delivery of humanitarian assistance,

Emphasising the need for adequate risk assessment and risk management strategies by the FGS and the United Nations, of climate change, other ecological changes, natural disasters and other factors on the stability of Somalia,

Taking note of the United Nations mandated (resolutions 2520 (2020), 2472 (2019)) Independent Assessment of International Support to the Whole Security Environment in Somalia Post-2021 (Independent Assessment) and its *recommendations, reaffirming paragraph 1 of resolution 2520 (2020) welcomes* the revised Somalia Transition Plan (STP) (2021), as formally transmitted to the African Union and the United Nations in February 2021 and *urging* Somalia, through the Security and Justice Committee, and the African Union, through the Peace and Security Council to finalise its endorsement without delay, *expressing* its full support for Somalia's desire to lead the security transition process, *further noting* the African Union Peace and Security Council's communiqué of 9 February 2021 on the situation in Somalia, and the Secretary-General's report of 17 February 2021 (S/2021/113) on the situation in Somalia and *looking forward* to the African Union's independent assessment of AMISOM due in May 2021,

Recognising its objective of transferring responsibility for security to Somali authorities, with the aim of Somalia taking the lead in 2021, and achieving full responsibility by the end of 2023, requires a phased approach and that this resolution starts a process which will be informed by:

- (a) the UN mandated Independent Assessment, published in January 2021;
- (b) the STP, published in February 2021;
- (c) the African Union's planned independent assessment due in May 2021;
- (d) the African Union Peace and Security Council's decisions also due in May 2021, the completion of a revised, joint, African Union-FGS Concept of Operations, in August 2021 as mandated in paragraph 8 of this resolution;
- (e) the Secretary-General's presentation of a proposal for a new mission from 2022, in September 2021 as mandated in paragraph 9 of this resolution and jointly produced by the Secretary-General with the African Union and in consultation with the FGS and donors; and
- (f) the Secretary-General's presentation of options for continuing United Nations logistical support in October 2021, as mandated in paragraph 21 of this resolution;

and stressing the need for constructive engagement from all relevant stakeholders in these activities,

Determining that the situation in Somalia continues to constitute a threat to regional and international peace and security,

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

*

1. *Reiterates* its aspiration that Somalia should be responsible for its own security, *emphasises* that the FGS should lead the security transition process and it should effectively start in 2021, *welcomes in this regard* the STP *urges* the FGS and FMS to fully implement their commitments *and further urges* Somalia's international partners to support Somalia in fulfilling these commitments, including by ensuring AMISOM's strategic tasks and priorities support the transition to Somali responsibility for security;

2. *Recognises* the role of the African Union Peace and Security Council, *takes note* of its request that the African Union Commission finalise its independent assessment to report in May 2021 and *urges* it to mandate in May 2021 an AMISOM that supports and enables the implementation of the STP and identifies and implements the necessary steps in 2021 in order to ensure continued delivery of support to Somali security efforts in 2022, including through a reconfigured African Union mission, from 2022 that is better able to face the changing threat posed by Al Shabaab and armed opposition groups, and is focussed on supporting and enabling the SSF to take primary responsibility for security;

3. *Reiterates* that while Al Shabaab remains the most immediate and pressing security and stability threat to Somalia, it and armed opposition groups will not be defeated by military means alone, and in this regard, *urges* the FGS and FMS with the support of the African Union, the United Nations and international partners to work closer together to increase the delivery of non-military activities to address Al-Shabaab's organised crime, illicit finance, access to and trafficking in small arms and light weapons, procurement, justice and propaganda activities;

4. *Underlines* the need for Somalia and its partners to take a coordinated and cohesive approach towards Somali-led political and security reforms, with all joint operations, and strategic and operational decisions, including SSF force generation, to ensure transition of security responsibilities agreed between the Somali authorities, SSF, and AMISOM from the outset, in coordination with the United Nations and other international partners where appropriate, and therefore *calls on*:

(a) The FGS to lead strategic coordination through regular high-level meetings of the Somali Transition Plan Strategic Steering Committee supported by the Security and Justice Committee (formerly the Comprehensive Approach to Security Executive) and the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility Committee;

(b) The FGS, FMS, AMISOM, UNSOM, UNSOS, and international partners to increase coordination and collaboration, including by establishing a joint fusion cell to plan and deliver integrated strategic operations led by the Somali Government, and with support from the African Union, the United Nations and Somalia's security partners, and to conduct joint analysis, joint integrated planning, operational coordination and joint performance assessment noting that UNSOS has already constructed a suitable facility in Mogadishu and *further calls on* the FGS, FMS, AMISOM, UNSOM, UNSOS and international partners to extend the joint fusion cell into the AMISOM sectors;

(c) International and regional partners, in coordination with AMISOM, UNSOM and through the CAS, to continue to coordinate and better align their support with respect to mentoring, training, provision of equipment, capacity building of SSF, and remuneration of police and military forces of Somalia including through ensuring that all such support and assistance is appropriately notified as required by resolution 2551 (2020);

5. *Underscores* that the primary responsibility for protecting civilians lies with the Somali authorities, *further underscores* the importance of protecting civilians in accordance with international humanitarian law, *underlines* the need for

Somalia and its international partners to take into account the security situation in each location during transition of security responsibilities to Somalia, *emphasises* that planning and decision-making should be guided by a comprehensive assessment of the threat to civilians and that proactive measures to mitigate risks should be taken, including by establishing an appropriately-sized and qualified SSF presence to ensure continued security and protection before, during and after military action, and *reaffirms* the essential role of the police and justice sector in stabilisation efforts and the preparation and conduct of elections;

AMISOM

Objectives and functions

6. *Reiterates* its objective of enabling Somalia, through support from AMISOM's military, police and civilian components to take full responsibility for its security in the future, with the aim of Somalia taking the lead in 2021, and achieving full responsibility by the end of 2023 in line with the STP and taking into consideration the situation on the ground;

7. *Recognises* the need for a reconfigured African Union mission, from the beginning of 2022, which is focussed on enabling and supporting SSF to take primary responsibility for security;

8. *Requests* the African Union and FGS to conduct a joint update to AMISOM's Concept of Operations (CONOPS) in line with the STP up until the end of 2023 and in close collaboration with the FMS, United Nations and international partners, to be presented to the Security Council no later than the end of August 2021 to help inform decisions about the size and shape of the future mission, including its logistical requirements and stresses that the size of the mission will decline over time as Somalia takes on greater security responsibilities;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, jointly with the African Union and in consultation with the FGS and donors, to produce a proposal on the strategic objectives, size and composition of a reconfigured African Union mission by the end of September 2021;

10. *Decides* to authorise the Member States of the African Union to maintain the deployment of 19,626 uniformed AMISOM personnel until 31 December 2021, inclusive of a minimum of 1,040 AMISOM police personnel including five Formed Police Units, as well as 70 AMISOM civilian personnel supported by the UN Support Office in Somalia to conduct tasks in line with the STP, and the phased handover of security to Somali security forces commencing in 2021;

11. *Decides that* AMISOM shall be authorised to take all necessary measures, in full compliance with participating States' obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and in full respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and unity of Somalia, to carry out its mandate;

12. *Decides* to authorise AMISOM to pursue the following strategic objectives:

(a) Reduce the threat posed by Al Shabaab and armed opposition groups with a view to enabling a stable, federal, sovereign and united Somalia;

(b) Support actively the transfer of security responsibilities from AMISOM to the SSF by helping to build the capacity of the SSF through training and mentoring, by facilitating the handover of responsibility for security functions from AMISOM to Somali authorities in liberated areas, and by conducting jointly planned and agreed operations with the SSF with increasing emphasis on these being Somali-led;

(c) Assist the FGS, FMS and SSF in providing security for the political process at all levels, including stabilisation efforts, reconciliation, and peacebuilding, and by providing relevant support to Somali police and civilian authorities;

13. *Decides* to authorise AMISOM to carry out the following functions to achieve these objectives:

(a) Noting paragraphs 2 and 8 in this resolution and working towards the operational timetables and objectives identified within the STP, maintain a presence in the sectors set out in the joint CONOPS, prioritising the population centres identified by the FGS and agreed by AMISOM;

(b) Conduct jointly-planned and targeted offensive operations with the SSF, to disrupt and degrade Al Shabaab and armed opposition groups, and to take actions to mitigate the threat posed by improvised explosive devices;

(c) Conduct jointly-planned, integrated operations with the SSF, in coordination with other international partners and stabilisation and reconciliation actors, to secure and recover areas from Al-Shabaab, and allow for the transfer of security responsibilities in these areas to the SSF when appropriate;

(d) Realign AMISOM sectors with FMS boundaries by the end of 2021, establish a joint planning Headquarters between AMISOM and the SSF in each sector/FMS, including to deploy where possible/appropriate multinational forces to these sectors;

(e) Provide mobile capabilities, assisting the SSF's force posture to become more offensive with the objective of having one designated AMISOM mobile reserve per Sector, capable of acting as a Quick Reaction Force and operating across sector boundaries with other forces, by the end of August 2021;

(f) Contribute towards securing and maintaining main supply routes in collaboration with the SSF, including to areas recovered from Al Shabaab, and in coordination with stabilisation and reconciliation actors, in particular supply routes essential to improving the humanitarian situation, which may include commercial goods essential to meeting the basic needs of civilians, those critical for logistical support to AMISOM, and routes that support the delivery of the STP;

(g) Assist, as appropriate, the SSF to provide security support to enable the FGS and FMS to carry out their functions of government, including support by AMISOM's civilian component to their efforts towards stabilisation coordinated with the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MoIFAR) and Community Recovery and Extension of State Authority and Accountability (CRESTA/A), reconciliation, peacebuilding, election preparation and provide support to enable the SSF to provide security for the process and other critical infrastructure;

(h) Protect, as appropriate, its personnel, facilities, installations, equipment and mission, and to ensure the security and freedom of movement of its personnel, as well as of United Nations personnel carrying out functions mandated by the Security Council;

(i) Receive defectors on a transitory basis, as appropriate, and in coordination with the United Nations and the FGS;

(j) Support and assist the FGS and the FMS in implementing the total ban on the export of charcoal from Somalia and the documentation and facilitation of the inspection of seized equipment including small arms and light weapons as requested in paragraph 18 of resolution 2111 (2013) and paragraph 6 of resolution 2182 (2014);

(k) Noting paragraphs 2, 6 and 12 of this resolution, further noting Somalia's direction as set out in the STP, and paragraph 10 of the AU PSC communique of 9 February 2021, welcomes the envisaged reconfiguration of AMISOM so that it is focussed on enabling and supporting SSF and the protection of the UN in Somalia, and further authorises it to commence initial work to reconfigure in each Sector towards providing the following functions:

- (i) provide the following support functions for the SSF: countering IEDs, surveillance, reconnaissance and targeting, command and communications support, civil-military coordination, medical evacuation, engineering, and the establishment of a mobile quick reaction force for each sector;
- (ii) provide the following enabling support functions for the Somali Police Force (SPF) and civilian stabilisation and governance functions to support FGS and FMS efforts in institution and state-building, including: civilian and police planning and liaison, joint patrols, providing security escorts providing specialised investigation expertise and community policing support in a gender-responsive manner;
- (iii) Build the capacity of the SSF and SPF while ensuring coherence with international partners undertaking similar work, and focussing on: planning and managing integrated operations, countering IEDs, counter-terrorism operations, logistics, engineering, reconnaissance and surveillance, military communication and community policing;
- (iv) Mentor and assist SSF to ensure that trained SSF units are able to operate with AMISOM, including by conducting joint exercises and operational rehearsals, enabling SSF operations through mentoring of combat and combat support capabilities on operations and through delivering training and mentoring where necessary for Somali police;

14. *Requests* the African Union to continue to strengthen oversight and operational coordination among AMISOM contingents, strengthen command, control and accountability of the operationalisation of mission enabling units, including air assets, enabling the creation, operationalisation and deployment of mobile forces in the Sectors in line with AMISOM's reconfiguration, ensure coordinated operational decision making under both the Sector and Force Commander;

15. *Supports* the African Union equipment reviews undertaken in 2019, *urges* the African Union to finalise its equipment review, in-line with the CONOPS review, and with United Nations support, taking into consideration Statement of Unit requirements (SURs), and within existing resources, in order to strengthen AMISOM's operational capabilities, fill gaps in resource requirements, and enhance its force protection to carry out their mandated tasks, and *further encourages* Member States to support the African Union in mobilising the required resources and equipment, including through un-caveated financial contributions to the AMISOM Trust Fund based on deliverable recommendations set out in the equipment review;

16. *Urges* the deployment of the remaining civilian component to provide full support to AMISOM's military and police tasks for reconfiguration of AMISOM to support transition to SSF-led operations and drawdown;

17. *Strongly underlines* the continued importance of AMISOM forces carrying out their mandate in full compliance with participating states' obligations under international law, including with regard to the protection of civilians, especially women and children, and of cooperating with UNSOM and UNSOS in implementing the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on United Nations support to Non-United Nations security forces (HRDDP) across the preparatory, conduct and review phases

of operations, including in the context of joint operations with the SSF, *calls upon* AMISOM to undertake, and upon the African Union to ensure, regular monitoring and prompt and thorough investigations into and reporting on allegations of violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law, as well as ensuring the highest standards of transparency, and conduct and discipline, and harmonisation of their procedures with UNSOM, welcomes the African Union's progress on the development of a compliance framework, and *urges* troop- and police-contributing countries to strengthen their cooperation with the African Union and the United Nations to ensure the effectiveness of the AMISOM compliance and accountability measures;

18. *Requests* AMISOM to strengthen uniformity of reporting to the Civilian Casualty Tracking Analysis and Response Cell (CCTARC) across all of the sectors, and take further steps to ensure mitigation measures are in place, *underlines* the importance of ensuring information is shared with relevant actors including the United Nations, is integrated into AMISOM reporting, and feeds into operational guidelines and plans, and *requests* the full support of troop and police contributors to the CCTARC, in collaboration with humanitarian, human rights and protection actors;

19. *Reaffirms* the importance of AMISOM's zero-tolerance policy on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, and in this regard *stresses* the need to prevent such exploitation and abuse, requests the African Union and troop- and police-contributing countries to screen personnel, undertake risk assessments, deliver all relevant training to personnel, to protect and support the relief and recovery of survivors who report abuse, carry out timely investigations into allegations, to hold perpetrators accountable, and to repatriate units where there is credible evidence of widespread or systemic sexual exploitation or abuse by those units, and *further requests* the African Union to work closely with the United Nations in this regard;

20. *Strongly encourages* efforts to increase the percentage of female uniformed personnel deployed to AMISOM by the troop- and police- contributing countries, and *urges* AMISOM to ensure the full, effective and meaningful participation of women across its operations and to integrate a gender perspective throughout the delivery of its mandate;

Logistical and financial support

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide a logistical support package in full compliance with HRDDP, through UNSOS for UNSOM, AMISOM uniformed personnel and 70 AMISOM civilians, on the basis set out in operative paragraph 2 of resolution 2245 (2015) and in line with paragraphs 10 and 11 in this resolution, and support to 13,900 SSF, including an appropriate share of the state and federal police who are formally integrated into the SSF in line with the National Security Architecture and who are actively participating in joint or coordinated operations with AMISOM that directly implement the STP, *reiterates* the importance of AMISOM and the SSF working jointly with UNSOS on the delivery of logistics support, including inter alia ensuring convoy and airfield security, protection of civilians and protecting main supply routes, *further requests* the Secretary-General to expand United Nations support to Somali security forces to include training, equipment and mentorship to counter the threat of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and *further requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, to present options for continuing United Nations logistical support from 2022, to include continued UN support for UNSOM and to the SSF alongside a reconfigured African Union mission, for consideration by the Security Council by the end of October 2021;

22. *Agrees* with the Secretary-General that oversight and accountability, in particular compliance with HRDDP will be the cornerstone of the partnership between the United Nations, the African Union, the FGS and the FMSs, *requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that any support provided to non-United Nations security forces is provided in strict compliance with the HRDDP, and *requests* the FGS and African Union to agree as a matter of urgency, a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations on the conditions of provision of United Nations support to SSF;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to work closely with the African Union in supporting the implementation of this resolution, including to provide technical and expert advice on the planning, deployment and strategic management of AMISOM in line with the mandate of the United Nations office to the African Union;

24. *Notes with appreciation* the continued financial support to AMISOM, including from the European Union and *urges* new donors to provide support for:

(a) AMISOM, including through the provision of additional funding for troop stipends, equipment, and technical assistance for AMISOM, as recommended in the African Union/United Nations funding report and to support the effective functioning of the CCTARC and the disbursement of amends;

(b) The United Nations Trust Fund in Support of the African Union Mission to Somalia and SSF, including funding directed to training equipment and funding and mentoring of the SSF to counter the threat of improvised explosive devices, tackle the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and to support SPF as set out in paragraph 20;

(c) National and state-level institutions for the development of the Somali security sector, including capacity building for the maritime police force in line with resolution 2246 (2015);

25. *Underlines* the need to enhance the predictability, sustainability and flexibility of financing for African Union-led peace support operations authorised by the Security Council and under the Security Council's authority consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter, and *encourages* the Secretary-General, African Union and Member States to continue efforts to explore in earnest funding arrangements for AMISOM, bearing in mind the full range of options available to the United Nations, African Union, the European Union, and to other partners, and considering the limitations of voluntary funding, in order to establish secure future funding arrangements for AMISOM;

Somalia

26. *Calls on* the FGS and FMS to organise free, fair, credible and inclusive elections in line with the 17 September agreement without further delay, and *urges* the FGS and FMS to finalise political agreement to this end;

27. *Supports* FGS efforts to reform its institutions and build capacity in the security sector, and *takes note* of the Mutual Accountability Framework for 2021 (MAF), *welcomes* progress made on joint operations including Operation Badbaado, and *reiterates* the urgency and necessity of full cooperation between the FGS and its FMS in order to deliver its commitments;

28. *Welcomes* the STP, *calls on* the Somali authorities to work urgently to deliver it, with the coordinated support of the international community, in order to assume greater responsibility for national security in 2021, and to urgently develop and implement a strategic plan to generate new SSF, integrate existing forces where appropriate, and train and equip current and newly generated FGS and FMS forces with clear targets and timelines and, in this regard, *calls on* the FGS, working with

the FMS, to set out a clear way forward on the process for Force Generation and integration of regional forces, prior to the development of the CONOPs, noting the need for enhanced capacity and capabilities of the SSF and *calls further* for the FGS and FMS to enhance civilian oversight of their security apparatus and to continue to adopt and implement appropriate vetting procedures of all defence and security personnel, including human rights vetting;

29. *Calls on* the Somali authorities to ensure that they properly resource the delivery of the STP, including the command, control and coordination mechanisms required to enable the planning, conduct and delivery of joint operations with AMISOM at the strategic and operational levels;

30. *Calls on* the FGS and FMS to fully support the state and federal police through effective training, provision of equipment, and sustainment support, reiterates the critical role police play in securing and holding territory and *emphasises* that a professional and capable police force, able to contribute to providing security for civilian populations, is necessary for the FGS and FMS to fully implement the STP, and *encourages* more inclusive and representative SSF and SPF recruitment from all sections of Somali society;

31. *Calls on* the FGS and FMS, to ensure all security and police forces fully respect international human rights law and international humanitarian law and to ensure that those responsible for violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law are held accountable, further calls on the United Nations, African Union and other international partners to support the Somali authorities with this as appropriate and requests that AMISOM share the experience and lessons-learnt from the operation of CCTARC with national authorities, including with a view to supporting the development of Somali civilian casualty monitoring, mitigation, and prevention policies and mechanisms;

32. *Calls upon* the Somali authorities, in coordination with AMISOM, international partners, and relevant United Nations entities, including UNMAS, to combat the illicit trade, transfer, destabilising accumulation, and misuse of small arms and light weapons in all aspects, to prevent access of unauthorised recipients to all types of explosives and related materials in Somalia, and to ensure their safe and effective management and storage;

33. *Calls upon* the Somali authorities, in coordination with AMISOM, international partners, and relevant United Nations entities, including UNODC, to combat illicit financial flows and address Al Shabaab's ability to generate revenue through organised crime operations;

34. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full, equal, meaningful and effective participation of all Somalis, including women, youth, persons with disabilities, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, reconciliation processes, peacebuilding and elections and other political processes, and *acknowledges* the significant contribution that civil society can make in this regard;

35. *Calls on* Somali authorities to work with relevant partners to ensure protection for all from sexual and gender-based violence, including sexual exploitation and abuse and conflict-related sexual violence, to take appropriate steps to investigate allegations, strengthen legislation to support accountability in line with relevant resolutions, and to accelerate the implementation of the Joint Communiqué and the National Action Plan to combat sexual violence in conflict;

36. *Expresses its grave concern* over reports of increased incidents of killing, maiming, rape and other forms of sexual violence used against children in armed conflict as well as the continuing high levels of unlawful recruitment, re-recruitment,

including in non-combatant roles, and use as well as abduction of children, *calls on* the Somali authorities to take action to prevent all forms of violence against children and to hold those responsible to account, *calls upon* the Somali authorities to take appropriate measures to prevent attacks against civilian infrastructures including against schools and hospitals, and to prevent their military use, to cease detentions of all children on national security charges where this is in violation of applicable international law and instead to treat children primarily as victims, and *further calls* on the FGS to take action to fully implement their 2012 Action Plans, the 2014 standard operating procedures for the handover of children separated from armed groups, the 2018 Roadmap and the Working Group Conclusions on Children and Armed Conflict in Somalia (S/AC.51/2020/6);

37. *Reiterates* its continued concern at the high number of refugees and IDPs, *stresses* that any evictions should be consistent with relevant national laws and international obligations, welcomes the FGS' ratification of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention), stresses the importance the FGS fully implementing its provisions *and calls on* the FGS to make progress on its commitment to deliver protection, assistance and durable solutions for displaced persons in Somalia, including through the adoption of national legal frameworks for IDPs and refugees;

38. *Recalls* its resolution 2417 (2018) and expresses grave concern at the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Somalia and its impact on the people of Somalia, encourages all partners including donors to maintain humanitarian assistance in 2021 and to provide additional assistance to the broader COVID-19 response, *strongly condemns* indiscriminate attacks and attacks directed against humanitarian and medical personnel and civilian infrastructure, including by Al Shabaab, as well as any misuse or obstruction of humanitarian assistance, *reiterates* its demand that all parties allow, in accordance with relevant provisions of international law and in line with humanitarian principles, full, safe, rapid and unhindered access for the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance to persons in need across Somalia, and *underlines* the importance of proper accounting of international humanitarian support;

Reporting

39. *Requests* the African Union to keep the Security Council informed every 90 days, through the Secretary-General, on the implementation of AMISOM's mandate, through no fewer than three, detailed written reports, with the first no later than 1 May 2021 and *further requests* in this regard, specific reporting on:

- (i) progress on joint operations in support of the STP including the use and effectiveness of coordination mechanisms;
- (ii) progress against revised objectives and functions set out in paragraphs 11 and 12;
- (iii) accountability measures taken to address underperformance, including command and control, and conduct and discipline;
- (iv) measures taken to protect civilians;
- (v) equipment review outcomes and use of force assets; and
- (vi) staffing of the civilian component, and encourages timely reporting to allow for the Council to take into account African Union perspectives on the situation in Somalia;

40. *Requests* the FGS to update the Security Council on the status of the endorsement of the STP by 1 May 2021, and to report on its implementation by the end of October 2021;

41. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Security Council regularly informed on the implementation of this resolution, in his regular reports requested in paragraph 16 of resolution 2540 (2020) and in this regard further requests the Secretary-General to assess in his regular reports:

- (i) implementation of the STP and MAF as referenced in paragraph 1 of this resolution;
- (ii) implementation of HRDDP; and
- (iii) UNSOS support to AMISOM, UNSOM and the Somali security forces;

42. *Reaffirms* its intention to further review the configuration of AMISOM;

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

Annex 2**Letter dated 12 March 2021 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

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

Please be kindly informed that China votes in favour of draft resolution S/2021/243, submitted by the United Kingdom, for the mandate renewal of the African Union Mission in Somalia.

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

Annex 3

Letter dated 12 March 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, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, that my delegation votes in favour of the Security Council draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland regarding the extension of the mandate of the African Union Mission in Somalia, contained in document S/2021/243.

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

Annex 4**Letter dated 12 March 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 11 March 2021 calling on the members of the Security Council to vote on the draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom on the situation in Somalia, put into blue under the symbol S/2021/243. France votes in favour.

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

Annex 5

Letter dated 12 March 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 11 March 2021 on the beginning of the voting procedure for the draft resolution contained in document S/2021/243 in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Somalia”.

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

(Signed) T. S. **Tirumurti**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations

Annex 6**Letter dated 12 March 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 11 March 2021, on the beginning of the voting procedure for the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Somalia”, document S/2021/243.

In accordance with the procedure for the adoption of draft resolutions of the Security Council for the duration of the restrictions on movement in New York due to the coronavirus disease pandemic, outlined in the letter of the President of the Security Council dated 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/2021/243.

(Signed) Geraldine **Byrne Nason**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations

Annex 7

Letter dated 12 March 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/2021/243) submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Somalia”.

In that respect, I wish to inform you that Kenya votes in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution.

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

Annex 8**Letter dated 12 March 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 11 March 2021 regarding the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Somalia”, submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and contained in document S/2021/243.

In accordance with the procedure outlined in the letter dated 27 March 2020 from the President of the Security Council (S/2020/253) for the adoption of draft 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 11 March 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 from the President of the Security Council dated 11 March 2021 calling on the members of the Council to express their votes on the draft resolution (S/2021/243) submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Somalia”.

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

(Signed) Abdou **Abarry**

Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Niger to the United Nations

Annex 10**Letter dated 11 March 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 11 March 2021 relating to the draft resolution contained in document S/2021/243 in connection with the agenda item "The situation in Somalia".

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

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

Annex 11

Letter dated 12 March 2021 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 11 March 2021 on the beginning of the voting procedure for the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Somalia” (S/2021/243).

In accordance with the procedure for the adoption of draft resolutions of the Security Council being in place during the duration of the restrictions on movement in New York due to the coronavirus disease pandemic outlined in the letter dated 27 March 2020 from the President of the Security Council (S/2020/253), I have the honour to inform you that the Russian Federation votes in favour of the draft resolution contained in document S/2021/243.

(Signed) Vassily **Nebenzia**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations

Annex 12**Letter dated 12 March 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to refer to the draft resolution (S/2021/243) submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Somalia”.

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

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

Annex 13

Letter dated 12 March 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Further to the letter dated 11 March 2021 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America, in her capacity as President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Somalia”, as contained in document S/2021/243, I have the honour to inform you that Tunisia votes in favour of the draft resolution.

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

Annex 14**Letter dated 12 March from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland addressed to the President of the Security Council**

With reference to the letter from the President of the Security Council dated 11 March 2021, the United Kingdom votes in favour of the draft resolution (S/2021/243), on the situation in Somalia.

(Signed) Barbara **Woodward**

Ambassador

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

Annex 15

Letter dated 12 March 2021 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America addressed to the President of the Security Council

On the draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland under the agenda item “The situation in Somalia” (S/2021/243), 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 12 March 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 from the President of the Security Council dated 11 March 2021 relating to the draft resolution under the agenda item entitled “The situation in Somalia”, as contained in document S/2021/243, I would like to hereby inform you that Viet Nam votes in favour of 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]

As Somalia is currently in a critical period of national reconstruction and is facing many challenges in terms of its security situation, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) remains indispensable. China supports the extension of the mandate of AMISOM by the Security Council and voted in favour of resolution 2568 (2021), on its extension. We support the Somali Government's gradual assumption of the primary responsibility for maintaining security and stability in Somalia and call on the international community to step up its efforts to help the Somali Government strengthen its capacity-building.

AMISOM is an African Union-owned peacekeeping operation authorized by the Security Council. China hopes that the United Nations, the African Union, AMISOM troop-contributing countries and the countries concerned will intensify their communication and coordination on the future arrangements for AMISOM in accordance with the principle of "Somali ownership and leadership", take into account each other's concerns and work together to maintain peace and stability in Somalia.

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

The role of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) in providing an enabling security environment for Somalia's progress cannot be overstated. AMISOM has been playing a key role in containing Al-Shabaab in Somalia for several years now. This is important not just for Somalia but for the wider Horn of Africa region. Given the political and security developments in Somalia in recent months, it is all the more important for the international community to relay its confidence in AMISOM. We commend all AMISOM troop- and police-contributing countries for their commitment and sacrifices.

In that spirit, we voted in favour of resolution 2568 (2021), adopted today and extending AMISOM's mandate until 31 December 2021. Among other things, the resolution envisages a phased handover of security to Somali security forces commencing in 2021, with a view to transferring full responsibility by 2023, if the situation on the ground allows. I would like to underline that the situation on the ground should guide the reconfiguration process.

In its 8 February communiqué, the African Union (AU) Peace and Security Council supported the renewal of AMISOM's mandate for 10 months. In that regard, we reiterate that future discussions on the Mission's reconfiguration need take into account the conclusions of the AU's independent assessment, scheduled for later this year. Let me also underline that the reconfigured AMISOM beyond December 2021 should not be limited by funding constraints. The Security Council needs to secure future funding arrangements for AMISOM and may need to consider United Nations assessed contributions for that purpose.

Annex 19

Statement by the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations

The African members of the Security Council — the Niger, South Africa and Tunisia, as well as Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (A3+1) — decided to vote in favour of resolution 2568 (2021) because of the overarching need for unity of purpose within the Security Council and to demonstrate solidarity with the men and women serving under the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

However, the A3+1 deeply regrets the way the process has been conducted. Our position as Security Council members has been guided by our recognition of the African Union (AU) as a key stakeholder in this process, by virtue of the Charter of the United Nations, and because of AMISOM's crucial actions, undertaken at a great cost — fallen peacekeepers from troop-contributing countries.

Rather than pay tribute to that contribution and its expression of continental solidarity with the Government and the people of Somalia, as well as its pivotal importance for the fulfilment of the Security Council's mandate, the process leading to resolution 2568 (2021) took a different approach. The African Union, its role and mandate must be given due regard.

The A3+1 was not properly consulted on the initial draft resolution on the situation in Somalia. The resolution we adopted today is far from ideal, although it was much improved following the constructive input of the A3+1 on the basis of the communiqué issued by the AU Peace and Security Council on 9 February 2021 and the support of Member States for some of our proposals.

Nevertheless, the A3+1 remains disappointed that some of our proposals were rejected without a convincing explanation, or any at all. In particular, the request to include a reference to United Nations assessed contributions as one of the possibilities to be considered as a means to respond to the agreed need to enhance the predictability, sustainability and flexibility of financing for AMISOM was not reflected in all the drafts — despite the fact that this proposal was not met with any objection or reservation by any delegation during the two rounds of negotiations.

It is worth recalling that the Council-mandated independent assessment report, circulated in January, concluded that a reconfigured AMISOM is the most viable option for providing an international security operation in support of Somalia and that the optimal solution to fund it would be United Nations assessed contributions. This matter should therefore be given full consideration ahead of any future Mission reconfiguration.

The A3+1 echoes the position of the AU Peace and Security Council — that the African Union must play a leadership role in determining the future of its Mission to Somalia throughout the transition. It is our sincere hope that the implementation of this resolution will be marked by meaningful consultations, cooperation and collaboration among the Council, the AU and other partners in a common endeavour to stabilize Somalia by substantively degrading terrorist groups in order to restore peace and security to the people of Somalia.

The Council and the penholder, in particular, must listen more intently to the host country, the African Union, and the troop-contributing countries that have paid the ultimate price for the security and stability of Somalia. We believe that the process calls for all members of the Council to rethink the penholder system and to recognize it and its operating methods as outmoded and increasingly at odds with managing global peace and security.

The A3+1 assures the people and the leadership of Somalia of our commitment to their peace and security. The transition that AMISOM will undertake with the security services of the Government of Somalia will only succeed in delivering peace and security if it ensures national unity and inclusiveness.

Annex 20**Statement by the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations**

The United Kingdom welcomes the unanimous adoption of resolution 2568 (2021), which enables the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) to continue its vital security support to Somalia in 2021 while creating the space for a constructive conversation among all partners about the shape of a future mission.

The long-standing deadline of the end of 2021 for the Somali authorities to take on the greater security responsibility from AMISOM represents an important step forward in our shared objective to build long-term security and stability in Somalia. It is an opportunity to recognize the success that AMISOM has had in helping to rebuild Somali capacity while acknowledging the continued need for the African Union to provide security support.

The United Kingdom thanks Security Council members for their engagement on this resolution, which is a product of extensive consultation with all members of the Council, Somalia and the African Union. The resolution is balanced with regard to the central issues, takes into account a wide range of views and reflects consensus. It sets out a 10-month time frame to build on existing efforts towards achieving security transition objectives, including the development of a revised Somali transition plan and the publication of the United Nations-led independent assessment on future support to Somali security. In addition, it clearly outlines what more is required, including the importance of a clear steer from the African Union on its objectives for a future mission.

Our role as penholder is to consult and to bridge gaps where they appear in order to achieve consensus. We consulted widely and inclusively while drafting the resolution and throughout the four-week negotiating process. We acknowledge that consensus has proven challenging on the issue of United Nations assessed contributions. We emphasize that the resolution does not rule anything out and creates time and space for all Council members to continue discussing this issue.

As we all know, Somalia is at a critical juncture. For 14 years, AMISOM has played a central role in enabling peace and security in Somalia. We commend the brave troops and police of AMISOM for their work. Today the Security Council has come together to adopt a resolution that sends a strong signal of support to Somalia.

Annex 21**Statement by the Permanent Representative of Somalia to the United Nations, Abukar Dahir Osman**

Allow me to congratulate you, Madam, on your presidency of the Security Council for March. We are confident in your leadership and wish you every success in the fulfilment your mandate.

We welcome the renewal of the reauthorization of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) for a period of 10 months — until the end of 2021. Over the past few months, the Federal Government of Somalia and our partners conducted an extensive review of the Somali transition plan through a consultative and inclusive process. The revised transition plan is the result of a Somali-owned and -led process to determine the security transition priorities of Somalia through to the end of 2023 via joint endeavours of the Federal Government of Somalia, federal member states and international partners.

We commend the strong commitment of our partners, in particular the efforts made by the Somali security forces and AMISOM personnel, who have been at the forefront in the fight against Al-Shabaab. We recognize and pay tribute to the bravery and sacrifices made by AMISOM personnel, who have fought for lasting peace and stability in Somalia.

Despite the significant gains we have made in the fight against Al-Shabaab, we stress that it is essential that the sacrifices made in the past decade or so are not wasted. In that regard, the revised Somali transition plan sets out the commitment of Somalia to build on the progress made thus far by AMISOM and our Somali security forces by progressively taking on security responsibilities.

As articulated in the revised Somali transition plan, our Government's strategic vision is for a phased, multi-year, conditions-based and sustainable approach to counter Al-Shabaab, build the core security functions of Somalia and sustainably recover strategic locations, which will allow for the transfer of security responsibilities from AMISOM to the Somali security forces. Al-Shabaab cannot be defeated through military means alone. The Somali transition plan consists, therefore, of three core strategic pillars: operations, institutional capacity-building and supporting activities.

We call on our partners to support the Federal Government of Somalia in delivering this strategic plan in a coordinated manner. The Federal Government strongly believes that the plan can be executed successfully only if AMISOM's mandate is renewed in full until the end of 2021 in order to enable the Mission to support the security transition operations, as outlined in the revised Somali transition plan, to secure and stabilize prioritized population centres and main supply routes and to provide high-end capability support to the Somali security forces. In that regard, we are looking forward to the reconfiguration of AMISOM's force to support a more offensive operational posture built around agile, mobile and resilient forces that can adapt to the existing and evolving threats posed by Al-Shabaab.

Our end state is therefore very clear: AMISOM must evolve into an African Union-led transition mission with a mandate beginning in 2022. We envision a transition mission with a presence across all sectors by the end of 2022. The mission should aim to play a supporting and enabling role through the provision of mobile forces and high-end capabilities, such as engineering, as well as through the mentoring and training of Somali security forces.

In conclusion, as we enter a critical moment in Somalia's history, we invite our partners and friends to support our strategic plan in order to pave the way for our

Somali security forces to progressively assume full responsibility for security across the whole of Somalia by the end of 2023.
