Letter dated 5 November 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 2549 (2020), related to agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina” and adopted on 5 November 2020. Resolution 2549 (2020) was adopted 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 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 4 November 2020, addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council, putting to the vote the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/1080 (enclosure to annex I);
- Letters received in reply from the members of the Security Council indicating their national position on the draft resolution (annexes II to XVI).

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

(Signed) Inga Rhonda King
President of the Security Council
Annex I

Letter dated 4 November 2020 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 States of America in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina”. That draft resolution has been put into blue (S/2020/1080, see enclosure).

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 the draft resolution will begin at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 4 November 2020 and will expire at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 5 November 2020.

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 in the United Nations 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 morning of Thursday, 5 November 2020.

(Signed) Inga Rhonda King
President of the Security Council
United States of America: draft resolution

The Security Council,


Reaffirming its commitment to the political settlement of the conflicts in the Former Yugoslavia, preserving the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States there within their internationally recognized borders,

Underlining its commitment to support the implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the Peace Agreement, S/1995/999, Annex), as well as the relevant decisions of the Peace Implementation Council (PIC),

Recognizing this year as the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Peace Agreement,

Recognizing the importance of Bosnia and Herzegovina’s transition to a functional, reform oriented, and democratic European country,

Noting the reports of the High Representative, including his latest report of 28 October 2020,

Encouraging the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the support of the international community, to accelerate their efforts to address the disposal of excess ammunition,

Emphasizing its appreciation to the Commander and personnel of the multinational stabilization force (EUFOR ALTHEA) and the personnel of other international organizations and agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina for their
contributions to the implementation of the Peace Agreement, and taking note of EUFOR ALTHEA’s strategic review, conducted in 2019,

Recalling all the agreements concerning the status of forces referred to in Appendix B to Annex 1-A of the Peace Agreement, and reminding the parties of their obligation to continue to comply therewith,

Further recalling the provisions of its resolution 1551 (2004) concerning the provisional application of the status of forces agreements contained in Appendix B to Annex 1-A of the Peace Agreement,

Welcoming the continued presence of EUFOR ALTHEA and the EU’s readiness at this stage to continue an executive military role to support Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities to maintain the safe and secure environment, the current focus of its mandate, and its regular review, including on the basis of the situation on the ground,

Reiterating its calls on the competent authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to take necessary steps to complete the 5+2 agenda, which remains necessary for closure of the Office of the High Representative, as confirmed by the PIC Steering Board communiqués,

Reaffirming provisions concerning the High Representative as set out in its previous resolutions, and further reaffirming Article V of Annex 10 of the Peace Agreement regarding the High Representative’s final authority in theatre in the interpretation of the civilian implementation of the Agreement,

Taking note of the Peace Agreement and of Bosnia and Herzegovina’s leadership’s commitment towards a European perspective, including through the submission of Bosnia and Herzegovina’s EU membership application in February 2016 and through the implementation of the recommendations in the EU Commission’s Opinion issued in May 2019, and recalling that Bosnia and Herzegovina’s commitment needs to be translated urgently into comprehensive reform results on the ground,

Underscoring the urgency to implement the rulings of the European Court of Human Rights as well as the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and emphasizing that progress needs to be made on electoral reform in a spirit of consensus within the current legislative period to move the country towards modern democratic standards in accordance with the OSCE-ODIHR, Venice Commission, and the Council of Europe’s Group of States against Corruption (GRECO)’s recommendations to improve the electoral framework,

Noting with concern continued polarizing unconstructive policies, actions and rhetoric in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and reiterating its calls to political leaders to advance reconciliation and mutual understanding,

Calling for all levels of authorities to further coordinate and implement socioeconomic reforms that will address structural weaknesses of the economy to the benefit of all citizens,

Emphasizing the need for Bosnia and Herzegovina to step up efforts regarding the functioning and independence of the judiciary, the fight against corruption and organized crime, and the fight against terrorism and prevention of radicalization,

Noting positively the adoption of the revised National War Crimes Processing Strategy by the Bosnia and Herzegovina Council of Ministers and encouraging authorities of its implementation,
Encouraging the parties to implement Bosnia and Herzegovina’s National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security in an inclusive manner and looking forward to its continuation,

Recognizing that the security environment has remained calm and stable, and noting that the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities have so far proven capable to deal with threats to the safe and secure environment,

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

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

1. Reiterates that the primary responsibility for the further successful implementation of the Peace Agreement lies with all the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina themselves and notes the continued willingness of the international community and major donors to support them in implementing the Peace Agreement, and calls upon all the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to fully cooperate with the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals and support investigations and prosecutions in the national system;

2. Welcomes the EU’s readiness to maintain an EU military operation (EUFOR ALTHEA) in Bosnia and Herzegovina from November 2020;

3. Authorizes the Member States acting through or in cooperation with the EU to establish for a further period of twelve months, starting from the date of the adoption of this resolution, a multinational stabilization force (EUFOR ALTHEA) as a legal successor to SFOR under unified command and control, which will fulfil its missions in relation to the implementation of Annex 1-A and Annex 2 of the Peace Agreement in cooperation with the NATO Headquarters presence in accordance with the arrangements agreed between NATO and the EU as communicated to the Security Council in their letters of 19 November 2004, which recognize that EUFOR ALTHEA will have the main peace stabilization role under the military aspects of the Peace Agreement;

4. Decides to renew the authorization provided by paragraph 11 of its resolution 2183 (2014) for a further period of twelve months starting from the date of adoption of this resolution;

5. Authorizes the Member States acting under paragraph 3 and 4 above to take all necessary measures to effect the implementation of and to ensure compliance with annexes 1-A and 2 of the Peace Agreement, stresses that the parties shall continue to be held equally responsible for the compliance with that annex and shall be equally subject to such enforcement action by EUFOR ALTHEA and the NATO presence as may be necessary to ensure implementation of those annexes and the protection of EUFOR ALTHEA and the NATO presence;

6. Authorizes Member States to take all necessary measures, at the request of either EUFOR ALTHEA or the NATO Headquarters, in defence of the EUFOR ALTHEA or NATO presence respectively, and to assist both organizations in carrying out their missions, and recognizes the right of both EUFOR ALTHEA and the NATO presence to take all necessary measures to defend themselves from attack or threat of attack;

7. Authorizes the Member States acting under paragraph 3 and 4 above, in accordance with annex 1-A of the Peace Agreement, to take all necessary measures to ensure compliance with the rules and procedures governing command and control of airspace over Bosnia and Herzegovina with respect to all civilian and military air traffic;
8. Urges all concerned parties to proceed with the formation of the governments at Federation and cantonal levels;

9. Urges the parties to prioritize the implementation of comprehensive reforms in a manner which benefits all citizens and is in line with the country’s European perspective, and further calls on them to refrain from any polarizing unconstructive policy, action and rhetoric;

10. Urges the parties, in accordance with the Peace Agreement, to abide to their commitment to cooperate fully with all institutions involved in the implementation of this peace settlement, as described in the Peace Agreement, including Annex 4;

11. Reaffirms that under the Peace Agreement, Bosnia and Herzegovina consists of two entities, which exist legally by virtue of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Constitution, and further reaffirms that any change to the Constitution must be made in accordance with the amendment procedure prescribed therein;

12. Decides to remain seized of the matter.
Annex II

Letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to the letter of 4 November 2020 from the President of the Security Council relating to the draft resolution on EUFOR ALTHEA (S/2020/1080).

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

(Signed) Philippe Kredelka
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations
Letter dated 4 November 2020 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 continued strong support in facilitating the voting procedure.

Please be kindly informed that China votes in favour of draft resolution S/2020/1080, submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina”.

(Signed) Zhang Jun
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations
Letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Special Envoy to the Security Council of the Dominican Republic addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to your letter dated 4 November 2020, regarding the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/1080, submitted under the agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina”.

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

(Signed) José Singer Weisinger
Ambassador
Special Envoy to the Security Council of the Dominican Republic
Letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, my delegation votes in favour of the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina”, contained in document S/2020/1080.

(Signed) Sven Jürgenson
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations
Letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

In reference to the letter dated 4 November 2020 from the President of the Security Council calling on the members of the Council to vote on the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America under the agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina”, contained in document S/2020/1080, France votes in favour.

(Signed) Nicolas de Rivière
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations
Letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

It is my honour to write to you in response to the letter dated 4 November 2020 from the President of the Security Council initiating a written voting procedure, in line with the agreement reached among the members of the Security Council.

The vote of the Federal Republic of Germany on the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America, in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina” and as contained in document S/2020/1080 is as follows:

The Federal Republic of Germany votes in favour on the above-mentioned resolution.

(Signed) Christoph Heusgen
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations
Annex VIII

Letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am writing in reference to the letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations, in her capacity as President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina” (S/2020/1080).

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

(Signed) Dian Triansyah Djani
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations
Letter dated 4 November 2020 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 dated 4 November 2020 of the President of the Security Council, calling on the members of the Council to express their votes on draft resolution S/2020/1080, submitted by the United States of America under the item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina”.

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

(Signed) Abdou Abarry
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Niger to the United Nations
Letter dated 4 November 2020 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 the letter dated 4 November 2020 from the President of the Security Council regarding the beginning of the voting procedure for the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina” (S/2020/1080).

In accordance with the procedure for the adoption of resolutions of the Security Council in place for the duration of the restrictions on movement in New York due to the coronavirus disease pandemic, as outlined in the letter by the President of the Security Council dated 27 March 2020 (S/2020/253), I have the honour to inform you that the Russian Federation votes in favour of draft resolution S/2020/1080.

(Signed) Vassily Nebenzia
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations
Letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the draft resolution (S/2020/1080) submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina”.

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

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

Letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to your letter dated 4 November 2020 regarding the draft Security Council resolution submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina”, contained in document S/2020/1080.

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

(Signed) Jerry Matthews Matjila
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations
Letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Further to the letter dated 4 November 2020 emanating from the Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and Grenadines, in her capacity as President of the Security Council, concerning the draft resolution submitted by United States of America, as contained in document (S/2020/1080), 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 XIV

Letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Chargé d’affaires 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 dated 4 November 2020 from the President of the Security Council, the United Kingdom votes in favour of draft resolution S/2020/1080 in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina”.

(Signed) Jonathan Allen
Ambassador
Chargé d’affaires of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations
Annex XV

Letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America in connection with the agenda item “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina” (S/2020/1080), the United States of America votes in favour.

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

Letter dated 4 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In reference to the letter dated 4 November 2020 from the President of the Security Council relating to the draft resolution under the agenda item entitled “The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina”, as contained in document S/2020/1080, 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