Letter dated 29 May 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 2522 (2020), in connection with the agenda item “The situation concerning Iraq”. Resolution 2522 (2020) was adopted on 29 May 2020 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 upon in the light of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

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

- My letter dated 28 May 2020, addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council (see annex I), putting to the vote the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/449 (see enclosure to annex I)
- Letters received in reply from members of the Security Council, indicating their national positions on the draft resolution (see annexes II to XVI).
- Statements subsequently submitted by members of the Security Council, providing their explanations of vote (see annex XVII).

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

(Signed) Sven Jürgenson
President of the Security Council
Annex I

Letter dated 28 May 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 during the current extraordinary circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and as set out in the letter dated 27 March 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the members of the Council (S/2020/253), I would like to draw your attention to the following issue:

The members of the Council have discussed a draft resolution, submitted by the United States of America, for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq. That draft resolution has been put in blue (S/2020/449, see enclosure).

With the understanding of the members of the Council, in my capacity as President of the Council, I shall put the above-mentioned draft resolution to a vote now.

Please kindly provide your vote (in favour, against or abstention) on that draft resolution and 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 next non-extendable 24 hours. The process will then proceed accordingly, as agreed.

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, 29 May 2020.

(Signed) Sven Jürgenson
President of the Security Council
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations
United States of America: draft resolution

The Security Council,


Reaffirming the independence, sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity of Iraq, and emphasizing the importance of the stability, prosperity, and security of Iraq for the people of Iraq, the region, and the international community, particularly in light of Iraq’s territorial victory over the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da’esh),

Supporting Iraq in addressing the challenges it faces as it continues its stabilization efforts, including the ongoing fight against terrorism and ISIL, Al-Qaida and their affiliates, and continues the task of recovery, reconstruction and reconciliation, including the requirement to meet the needs of all Iraqis, including women, youth, children, displaced persons, and persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities,

Welcoming efforts by the Government of Iraq to urgently deliver meaningful reforms aimed at meeting the Iraqi people’s legitimate demands to address corruption, deliver essential and basic services, diversify its economy, create jobs, improve governance, and strengthen viable and responsive state institutions,

Commending the Government of Iraq’s efforts to plan and execute genuinely free and fair Iraqi-led, Iraqi-owned elections that are inclusive, credible, and participatory; and welcoming the Government of Iraq’s request for further UN electoral advice, support, and technical assistance in this regard, including through the good offices of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General,

Calling on the international community to remain strongly committed to providing support to Iraq for its humanitarian, stabilization, reconstruction, and development efforts,

1. Decides to extend the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) until 31 May 2021;
2. Decides further that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and UNAMI, at the request of the Government of Iraq, and taking into account the letter from the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq to the Secretary-General (S/2020/448), shall

(a) prioritize the provision of advice, support, and assistance to the Government and people of Iraq on advancing inclusive, political dialogue and national and community-level reconciliation;

(b) further advise, support, and assist:

(i) the Government of Iraq and the Independent High Electoral Commission with efforts to plan and execute genuinely free and fair Iraqi-led, Iraqi-owned elections and referenda, including through regular technical reviews and detailed reporting on electoral preparations and processes, as part of the Secretary-General’s regular reporting cycle;

(ii) the Government of Iraq and the Council of Representatives on constitutional review, the implementation of constitutional provisions, as well as on the development of processes acceptable to the Government of Iraq to resolve disputed internal boundaries;

(iii) the Government of Iraq with progress on security sector reform, including by prioritizing the planning, funding, and implementation of efforts to strengthen state control and reintegration programmes for former members of armed groups, where and as appropriate, in coordination with other multinational entities;

(iv) the Government of Iraq on facilitating regional dialogue and cooperation, including on issues of border security, energy, trade, environment, water, infrastructure, public health, and refugees;

(c) promote, support, and facilitate, in coordination with the Government of Iraq:

(i) the coordination and delivery of humanitarian assistance and the safe, orderly, and voluntary return or local integration, as appropriate, of refugees and displaced persons, including through the efforts of the UN Country Team;

(ii) the coordination and implementation of programmes to improve Iraq’s capacity to provide effective essential civil and social services, including health care and education, for its people and continue to support Iraq’s active regional and international donor coordination of critical reconstruction and assistance programmes, including through effective follow-up of international pledges;

(iii) Iraqi, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and other efforts on economic reform, capacity-building and setting conditions for sustainable development and recovery and reconstruction including in areas affected by terrorism, including through coordination with national and regional organizations and, as appropriate, civil society, donors, and other international institutions;

(iv) the contributions of UN agencies, funds, and programmes to the objectives outlined in this resolution under the unified leadership of the Secretary-General through the Special Representative for Iraq, supported by their designated Deputy;

(d) promote accountability and the protection of human rights, and judicial and legal reform, with full respect for the sovereignty of Iraq, in order to strengthen
the rule of law and improve governance in Iraq, in addition to supporting the work of the UN Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da’esh/ISIL (UNITAD) established in resolution 2379 (2017);

(e) approach gender mainstreaming as a crosscutting issue throughout its mandate and to advise and assist the Government of Iraq in ensuring the full, equal and meaningful participation, involvement and representation of women at all levels;

(f) and assist Government of Iraq and UN Country Team efforts to strengthen child protection, including the rehabilitation and reintegration of children;

3. Recognizes that the security of UN personnel is essential for UNAMI to carry out its work for the benefit of the people of Iraq and calls upon the Government of Iraq to continue to provide security and logistical support to the UN presence in Iraq;

4. Expresses its intention to review the mandate and reporting cycle of UNAMI by 31 May 2021, or sooner, if requested by the Government of Iraq;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council every three months on the progress made towards the fulfilment of all UNAMI’s responsibilities;

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

Letter dated 29 May from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to the letter President of the Security Council of 28 May relating to the draft resolution on the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (S/2020/449).

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

(Signed) Marc Peeters de Buytswerve
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Belgium
to the United Nations
Letter dated 28 May 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, Mr. President, and your team for the strong support in facilitating the voting procedure.

Please be kindly informed that China will vote in favour of the draft resolution (S/2020/449), submitted by the United States of America, regarding the extension of mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq.

(Signed) Zhang Jun
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the People’s Republic of China to the United Nations
Letter dated 28 May 2020 from the Special Envoy to the Security Council of the Dominican Republic addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to the letter dated 28 May 2020, in which the President of the Security Council puts the draft resolution on the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (S/2020/449) to the vote.

In that regard, 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 28 May 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, Sir, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the United Nations Charter, that my delegation votes in favour of the Security Council draft resolution regarding the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (S/2020/449),

(Signed) Sven Jürgenson
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations
Letter dated 28 May 2020 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

I refer to the letter dated 28 May 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, relating to the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, put in blue under the symbol S/2020/449. France votes in favour.

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

Letter dated 28 May 2020 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

It is my honour, Sir, to write to you in response to your letter dated 28 May 2020, initiating a written voting procedure, in line with the agreement reached among members of the Security Council.

The vote of the Federal Republic of Germany on the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America regarding the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, as contained in document S/2020/449, is as follows:

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

(Signed) Juergen Schulz
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations
Annex VIII

Letter dated 28 May 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 28 May 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (S/2020/449).

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

(Signed) Dian Triansyah Djani
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations
Annex IX

Note verbale dated 28 May 2020 from the Permanent Mission of the Niger to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Permanent Mission of the Niger to the United Nations in New York has the honour to refer to the letter dated 27 March 2020 from the Permanent Representative of China, in his capacity as President of the Security Council for the month of March, enunciating the agreed provisional procedure for the adoption of draft resolutions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq, as contained in document S/2020/449, the Republic of the Niger votes in favour.
Annex X

Letter dated 28 May 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, Sir, to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 28 May 2020, on the beginning of the voting procedure for the draft resolution regarding the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (S/2020/449).

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 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/2020/449.

(Signed) Vassily Nebenzia
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations
Annex XI

Letter dated 28 May 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/2020/449) submitted by the United States of America for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1500 (2003).

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 XII

Letter dated 28 May 2020 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council


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

(Signed) Jerry Matthews Matjila
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations
Annex XIII

Letter dated 28 May 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to the letter dated 28 May 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Estonia, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, submitted by the United States of America in document S/2020/449, I would like to inform you, Sir, that Tunisia votes in favour of that draft resolution.

(Signed) Kais Kibtani
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations
Annex XIV

Letter dated 28 May 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 from the President of the Security Council of 28 May 2020, the United Kingdom votes in favour of the draft resolution (S/2020/449) for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq.

(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 28 May 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 for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (S/2020/449), the United States of America votes in favour.

(Signed) Kelly Craft
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations
Letter dated 28 May 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 of the President of the Security Council dated 28 May 2020, relating to the draft resolution on the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq submitted by the United States of America, as contained in document S/2020/449;

In accordance with the understanding and procedure for the consideration of draft resolutions, agreed upon by the members of the Security Council, during the extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease pandemic, as reflected in the letter dated 7 May 2020 by the President of the Security Council;

I would like to hereby inform you, Sir, that Viet Nam has decided to vote in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution and does not intend to make any statement on this matter at this stage.

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

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

With the noteworthy political progress that has been made in Iraq, it is important that the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) continues to operate and discharge its mandate. We encourage sustained cooperation between UNAMI and the Government of Iraq, both of which have a shared ambition to promote the positive advancement of Iraq. To that end, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines welcomes the adoption of the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/449 for renewing UNAMI’s mandate. We recognize the unanimous adoption of the resolution as evidence of the Security Council’s commitment to the security and prosperity of Iraq and the Iraqi people.

Despite the progress that has been made, we must not forget the many persistent challenges that necessitate the continuance of UNAMI’s support to the Iraqi authorities in their efforts towards inclusive dialogue, reconciliation and reconstruction. In this regard, we reiterate that UNAMI must continue to respect Iraq’s sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence.

We also reiterate our support to Ms. Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert and her team and recognize their continued dedication to the people of Iraq in line with their mandate.