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

[Original: English and French]

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 2526 (2020), in connection with the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya”. The resolution was adopted on 5 June 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 pandemic.

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

• My letter dated 4 June 2020, addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council, putting to a vote the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/500 (see annex I and enclosure thereto);

• 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 explanations of their votes (see annexes XVII and XVIII).

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

(Signed) Nicolas de Rivière
President of the Security Council
Letter dated 4 June 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council

[Original: English and French]

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 the members of the Security 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 Germany, in connection with the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya”. That draft resolution, contained in document S/2020/500 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 3 p.m. on Thursday, 4 June 2020 and will expire at 3 p.m. on Friday, 5 June 2020.

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 Director of the Security Council Affairs Division in the United Nations Secretariat (egian@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, 5 June 2020.

(Signed) Nicolas de Rivière
President of the Security Council
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations
Germany: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolution 1970 (2011) imposing the arms embargo on Libya and all its subsequent relevant resolutions,

Recalling its resolutions 2292 (2016), 2357 (2017), 2420 (2018) and 2473 (2019) concerning the strict implementation of the arms embargo on the high seas off the coast of Libya,

Reaffirming its resolution 2510 (2020), recalling the Berlin Conference on Libya convened on 19 January 2020 and recognising the important role of neighbouring countries and regional organisations,

Mindful of its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security under the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its determination that terrorism, in all forms and manifestations, constitutes one of the most serious threats to peace and security,

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

1. Decides to extend the authorizations as set out in resolution 2473 for a further 12 months from the date of this resolution;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council within eleven months of the adoption of this resolution on its implementation;

3. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.
Letter dated 4 June 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to the President of the Security Council’s letter of 4 June relating to the draft resolution on Libya (S/2020/500).

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 Pecsteen de Buytswerve
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations
Annex III

Letter dated 5 June 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 strong support in facilitating the voting procedure.

Please be kindly informed that China votes in favour of the draft resolution submitted by Germany for the extension of the authorizations as set out in resolution 2473 (2019) (S/2020/500).

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

Letter dated 4 June 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 June 2020 regarding the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/500, in connection with the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya”.

Upon instructions from my Government, 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
Annex V

Letter dated 4 June 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 Germany in connection with the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya” and contained in document S/2020/500.

(Signed) Sven Jürgenson
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations
Letter dated 5 June 2020 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

I refer to my letter of 4 June, calling the members of the Security Council to vote on the draft resolution submitted by Germany in connection with the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya”, as put in blue in document S/2020/500.

France votes in favour.

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

Letter dated 5 June 2020 from the Deputy 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 of the President of the Security Council dated 4 June 2020, 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 it submitted in connection with the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya”, as contained in document S/2020/500, is as follows:

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

Please find enclosed our explanation of vote on the above-mentioned draft resolution.

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

Letter dated 4 June 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 June 2020 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations, in his capacity as the President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution for the extension of the authorizations as set out in resolution 2473 (2019) on the implementation of an arms embargo on the high seas off the coast of Libya (S/2020/500).

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

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

Letter dated 4 June 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 of the President of the Security Council dated 4 June 2020, calling on the members of the Council to indicate their vote on the draft resolution submitted by Germany under the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya”, as contained in document S/2020/500.

In accordance with the temporary procedure for the adoption of resolutions agreed upon in the light of the restrictions resulting from the coronavirus disease pandemic, I have the honour to indicate that the Republic of the Niger votes in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution.

(Signed) Abdou Abarry
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Niger to the United Nations
Letter dated 5 June 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 your letter of 4 June 2020, initiating the voting procedure on the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya” (S/2020/500).

In accordance with the procedure for the adoption of Security Council resolutions during the restrictions on movement in New York owing to the coronavirus disease pandemic, as outlined in the letter of 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 draft resolution S/2020/500.

(Signed) Vassily Nebenzia
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations
Letter dated 4 June 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 submitted by Germany in connection with the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya” (S/2020/500).

In this 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 4 June 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 June 2020 regarding the draft resolution of the Security Council on the implementation of the arms embargo on the high seas off the coast of Libya, as contained in document S/2020/500.

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 4 June 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 4 June 2020 from the Permanent Representative of France, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution submitted by Germany in connection with the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya”, as contained in document S/2020/500, I would like to inform you that Tunisia votes in favour of that draft resolution.

(Signed) Kais Kabtani
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations
Letter dated 4 June 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 of 4 June 2020 from the President of the Security Council, the United Kingdom votes in favour of the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya” (S/2020/500).

(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 June 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 Germany in connection with the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya” (S/2020/500), 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 5 June 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 June 2020 from the President of the Security Council regarding the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item entitled “The situation in Libya” submitted by Germany, as contained in document S/2020/500;

In accordance with the understanding on the 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 from the President of the Security Council on the working methods of the Security Council;

I 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 a statement at this stage.

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

Statement by the Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations, Juergen Schulz

Today the Security Council is renewing its call to action from resolution 2292 (2016), whereby, to contribute to the enforcement of the arms embargo on Libya, the Security Council authorized Member States, acting nationally or through regional organizations, to inspect vessels on the high seas off the coast of Libya that are believed to violate the arms embargo. Four years later, against the backdrop of a steady escalation of fighting and attacks on civilians and civilian targets, sadly, that call to action remains relevant.

Extending the authorization to inspect ships sends an important signal that the international community remains seized of the situation in Libya and is willing and ready to act.

I commend the efforts of the European Union (EU), which has mobilized considerable resources pursuant to that authorization, in particular with the deployment of the former European Union military operation in the Southern Central Mediterranean, SOPHIA, and the current European Union Naval Force Mediterranean Operation IRINI. Operation IRINI, with its naval and aerial surveillance capabilities, serves as an effective deterrent and is an important partner to the Panel of Experts supporting the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011), concerning Libya. Operation IRINI has supported the implementation of the arms embargo and has hailed ships on multiple occasions since its launch at the end of March this year.

The European Union has proven its willingness to operate in a transparent manner and is living up to its obligation to act strictly within the parameters of Security Council resolutions. Operation IRINI will be present where it is most needed, thus ensuring that efforts to implement the arms embargo remain balanced and effective.

The strict implementation of the arms embargo is of the utmost importance for creating the much-needed space to bring about a political solution to a conflict that cannot be resolved by military means. With resolution 2526 (2020), the Security Council has put a valuable tool in the hands of the international community. It is not a resolution tailored to the EU, but addresses the international community as a whole. Germany therefore welcomes the commitment displayed by neighbouring States and other regional organizations to remain continuously involved, which is reflected in the current text of the resolution, alongside a reference to resolution 2510 (2020) as a reminder of the pledges made at the Berlin Conference.

For other actors to come forward and support the efforts made by Operation IRINI, the predictability of Security Council actions will be crucial. It is a complex operation involving financial, logistic and planning efforts from several European Union member States. A 12-month renewal provides the certainty required to conduct such an operation.

In closing, I would like to thank the European Union for its continued willingness to brief the Council on its operations. As a new penholder, we are also grateful to the former penholder (the United Kingdom) and Council members for their ongoing support.
Annex XVIII

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

The Russian delegation supported the initiative to extend for one more year the special inspection regime on the high seas off the coast of Libya established under resolution 2292 (2016), with the objective of ensuring respect for the Security Council’s arms embargo. Such special measures could be useful as the Libyan crisis remains a serious source of regional instability, accompanied by illicit arms trafficking.

We took note of the decision of the European Union to launch the new European Union Naval Force Mediterranean Operation, aimed at supporting the implementation of the United Nations arms embargo on Libya. The Operation should fully comply with international law as well as with the framework established by resolution 2292 (2016). Any modifications to its activities beyond the scope of that resolution will require the consent of the Security Council. We expect Operation IRINI to be conducted along the entire Libyan coast. Imbalance or bias in that regard could negatively affect international efforts aimed at promoting dialogue between the Libyan parties.

We reaffirm the central role of the United Nations in the Libyan settlement. We hope that United Nations mediation will lead to success and look forward to the early appointment of a new Special Representative of the Secretary-General.