



Security Council

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Letter dated 28 August 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 2538 (2020), in connection with the item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations” and adopted on 28 August 2020. Resolution 2538 (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 27 August 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/2020/838 (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 submitted subsequently by Security Council members providing their explanations of vote (see annexes XVII and XVIII).

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

(Signed) Dian Triansyah **Djani**
President of the Security Council



Annex I

Letter dated 27 August 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and 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, and as reflected 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 considered a draft resolution, submitted by Indonesia, in connection with the agenda item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations”. This draft resolution, contained in document S/2020/838, has been put into blue (see enclosure).

With the understanding of members of the Council and 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 10 a.m. on Thursday, 27 August 2020 and expire at 10 a.m. on Friday, 28 August 2020.

Please submit your vote (in favour, against or abstention) on that draft resolution and possible explanation of vote by sending a letter to the Director of the Security Council Affairs Division of the Secretariat (egian@un.org) 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 publishing 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 Friday, 28 August 2020.

(Signed) Dian Triansyah **Djani**
President of the Security Council

Enclosure

United Nations

S/2020/838

**Security Council**Provisional
28 August 2020

Original: English

Indonesia: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions and presidential statements addressing issues of peacekeeping and women, peace and security,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, reaffirming the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Underscoring the importance of peacekeeping as one of the most effective tools available to the United Nations in the promotion and maintenance of international peace and security,

Reaffirming the basic principles of peacekeeping, such as consent of the parties, impartiality, and non-use of force, except in self-defence and defence of the mandate, and *recognizing* that the mandate of each peacekeeping mission is specific to the need and situation of the country concerned, and that the Security Council expects full delivery of the mandates it authorizes,

Recognizing the significance of the 20th anniversary of resolution 1325 (2000) and the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action as momentum for Member States to commit to implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda and its priorities, by ensuring and promoting the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in peace processes, including through mainstreaming a gender perspective, and remain committed to increasing the number of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping at all levels and in all positions, including senior leadership positions,

Recognizing the indispensable role of women in increasing the overall performance and effectiveness of peacekeeping operations, *further recognizing* that the presence of women and better balance between men and women among peacekeepers contribute to, among others, greater credibility of the missions among the population, more effective community engagement, and enhanced protection responses,

Noting with appreciation the progress made in efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General to mobilize all partners and stakeholders in support of more effective United Nations peacekeeping through the Secretary-General's "Action for Peacekeeping" initiative, which places high importance on promoting the Women, Peace and Security agenda, alongside advancing political solutions, strengthening

protection of civilians, improving the safety and security of peacekeepers, supporting effective performance and accountability, strengthening the impact of peacekeeping on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, improving peacekeeping partnerships, and strengthening the conduct of peacekeeping operations and personnel,

Recalling resolution 2242 (2015) and its request that Secretary-General initiate, in collaboration with Member States, a strategy to double the number of women in military and police contingents of United Nations peacekeeping operations by 2020 and further requests that this strategy ensure the full, effective and meaningful participation of women in all aspects of peacekeeping, *further recalling* the Secretary-General's System-Wide Strategy on Gender Parity and Uniformed Gender Parity Strategy 2018-2028, and *stressing* the need to continue the efforts to increase participation of women in peacekeeping operations,

Stressing that promoting increased women's participation in peacekeeping operations requires collective commitment and concerted efforts by all Member States and the United Nations Secretariat, and should be supported with appropriate resources, *welcoming* continuing efforts and initiatives by Member States and the United Nations Secretariat to increase women's participation in peacekeeping operations, including by providing uniformed women personnel with equal access to education, training and capacity building, networking opportunities, and taking steps to better understand and address barriers to participation of women in peacekeeping,

Recalling its resolution 2242 (2015), recognizing the indispensable role of women in United Nations peacekeeping and *welcoming* efforts to incentivise greater numbers of women in military, police and civilian deployed in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and *noting* the importance of increasing the number of women in leadership positions and of ensuring that the needs and participation of women are integrated in all stages of mission planning and implementation through the inclusion of appropriate gender technical expertise,

Underscoring the importance it places on the safety and security of peacekeepers, including women peacekeepers, in the field and the need for the Secretary-General and Troop-and Police-Contributing Countries and Member States to work together to ensure that missions are adequately resourced and all peacekeepers in the field are willing, capable and equipped effectively and safely to implement their mandate,

1. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations Secretariat and regional organisations to strengthen their collective efforts to promote the full, effective, and meaningful participation of uniformed and civilian women in peacekeeping operations at all levels and in all positions, including in senior leadership positions;

2. *Encourages* Member States to develop strategies and measures to increase the deployment of uniformed women to peacekeeping operations, including by:

(a) Disseminating information about and providing access to deployment opportunities for women personnel, including for senior positions;

(b) Providing access to training for uniformed women personnel, and ensuring that trained uniformed women are deployed for peacekeeping operations;

(c) Developing a national database of trained women personnel interested in and available for nomination and deployment;

(d) Identifying and addressing barriers in the recruitment, deployment, and promotion of uniformed women peacekeepers;

(e) Considering ways, as appropriate, to increase the participation of women in national militaries and police;

(f) Supporting the capacities of regional organisations in training uniformed women;

(g) Taking measures to provide support and incentives including child care and other relevant needs;

3. *Calls on* the Secretary-General to continue to implement the System-Wide Strategy on Gender Parity and Uniformed Gender Parity Strategy 2018-2028, and to continue to monitor and evaluate progress and challenges in meeting the targets, taking into account the views, best practices, and lesson learned from Member States, particularly Troop- and Police-Contributing Countries as well as countries hosting peacekeeping operations, and *further calls* on all Member States to continue to support the strategies, including by increasing the number and participation of uniformed women personnel in peacekeeping operations;

4. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen cooperation to support greater participation of women in peacekeeping operations, including through sharing best practices for recruitment, retention, training, and deployment of uniformed women;

5. *Encourages* cooperation between the United Nations and regional and sub regional organisations in advancing greater participation and role of women in peacekeeping operations;

6. *Calls upon* Member States and the United Nations Secretariat to ensure safe, enabling and gender-sensitive working environments for women in peacekeeping operations and to address threats and violence against them, *urges* the United Nations Secretariat or Troop- and Police-Contributing Countries, where appropriate, to provide adequate and appropriate infrastructure and facilities for women in the missions, such as accommodation, sanitation, health care, protective equipment, taking into account their specific needs as well as demands with regard to security and privacy, *further urges* Member States and the United Nations Secretariat to make available adequate resources in this regard;

7. *Expresses* concern regarding allegations of sexual harassment in peacekeeping operations, *affirms* its support for the Secretary-General's zero-tolerance policy on all forms of sexual harassment, and *requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen efforts to prevent and address sexual harassment within peacekeeping operations, in close cooperation and consultation with Member States;

8. *Encourages* Troop- and Police-Contributing Countries to provide all military and police personnel with adequate training to carry out their responsibilities in the missions, and *requests* the United Nations Secretariat to provide and update the necessary guidance and training materials;

9. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations Secretariat to enhance partnerships to support targeted trainings and capacity building programmes for uniformed women personnel, including through the Light Coordination Mechanism, triangular partnership, bilateral, and regional frameworks; *further encourages* Member States to nominate uniformed women personnel to participate in such training activities and to promote their deployment to peacekeeping operations;

10. *Requests* the United Nations Secretariat to continue public communications and advocacy to encourage women's participation in peacekeeping operations, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders;

11. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations Secretariat and peacekeeping missions to facilitate networking opportunities and develop sustainable networks among former, current and prospective women peacekeepers, as a means to

exchange experience and information about participation in peacekeeping operations and to inspire more women to participate in peacekeeping operations;

12. *Urges* peacekeeping operations to promote full, effective and meaningful participation of women in all components and functions and at all levels at headquarters and in the field, including through the establishment of mixed engagement teams which include both men and women, and increased involvement of women peacekeepers in components and functions where they are underrepresented;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report the progress of the implementation of this resolution and other related aspects of participation of women in peacekeeping operations in his comprehensive annual briefing mandated by its resolution 2378 (2017);

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

Annex II**Letter dated 27 August 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I refer to the letter dated 27 August 2020 from the President of the Security Council regarding the draft resolution submitted by Indonesia related to the agenda item “United Nations peacekeeping operations”, contained in document S/2020/838.

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 this draft resolution. At this stage, my delegation does not intend to deliver an explanation of vote.

(Signed) Philippe **Kridelka**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations

Annex III

Letter dated 27 August 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, Sir, and your team for the strong support in facilitating the voting procedure.

Please be kindly informed that China votes in favour of draft resolution S/2020/838, submitted by Indonesia in connection with the agenda item “United Nations peacekeeping operations”.

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

Annex IV**Letter dated 27 August 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 27 August 2020, regarding the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/838, submitted under the agenda item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations”.

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

Annex V

Letter dated 27 August 2020 from the Chargé d'affaires of Estonia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the United Nations Charter, my delegation votes in favour of the draft resolution in connection with the agenda item "United Nations peacekeeping operations", contained in document S/2020/838.

(Signed) Gert Auväärt
Deputy Permanent Representative, Chargé d'affaires
of Estonia to the United Nations

Annex VI**Letter dated 27 August 2020 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

[Original: French]

In reference to the letter dated 27 August 2020 from the President of the Security Council inviting the members of the Council to vote on the draft resolution submitted by Indonesia under the agenda item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations” contained in document S/22020/838, France votes in favour.

(Signed) Anne **Gueguen**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires of France to the United Nations

Annex VII

Letter dated 27 August 2020 from the Chargé d'affaires of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

It is my honour to write to you, Sir, in response to the letter dated 27 August 2020 from the President of the Security Council initiating a written voting procedure, in line with the agreement reached between the members of the Security Council.

The vote of the Federal Republic of Germany on the draft resolution submitted by Indonesia in connection with the agenda item “United Nations peacekeeping operations”, and as contained in document S/2020/838, is as follows:

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

(Signed) Günter **Sautter**
Ambassador, Chargé d'affaires of Germany to the United Nations

Annex VIII**Letter dated 27 August 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 27 August 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution on women in peacekeeping operations (S/2020/838), in connection with the agenda item “United Nations peacekeeping operations”.

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

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

Annex IX

Letter dated 27 August 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 27 August from the President of the Security Council calling on the members of the Council to express their votes on draft resolution S/2020/838, submitted by Indonesia under the agenda item “United Nations peacekeeping operations”.

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 of the above-mentioned draft resolution.

(Signed) Abdou **Abarry**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Niger to the United Nations

Annex X**Letter dated 27 August 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 27 August 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 “United Nations peacekeeping operations” (S/2020/838).

In accordance with the procedure for the adoption of Security Council resolutions in place for the duration of the restrictions on movement in New York due to the coronavirus disease pandemic, as outlined in a letter dated 27 March 2020 (S/2020/253) by the President of the Security Council, I have the honour to inform you that the Russian Federation votes in favour of draft resolution S/2020/838.

(Signed) Vassily **Nebenzia**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations

Annex XI

Letter dated 27 August 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/2020/838) submitted by Indonesia in connection with the agenda item “United Nations peacekeeping operations”.

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 27 August 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 27 August 2020, regarding the draft Security Council resolution concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations and women in peacekeeping, as contained in document S/2020/838.

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 27 August from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Further to the letter dated 27 August 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution submitted by Indonesia in connection with the agenda item “United Nations peacekeeping operations”, contained in document S/2020/838, I would like to inform you that Tunisia votes in favour.

(Signed) Kais **Kabtani**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations

Annex XIV**Letter dated 27 August 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 27 August 2020 from the President of the Security Council, the United Kingdom votes in favour on draft resolution S/2020/838, in connection with the agenda item "United Nations peacekeeping operations".

(Signed) James **Roscoe**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires of the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland to the United Nations

Annex XV

Letter dated 27 August 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America addressed to the President of the Security Council

On the draft resolution submitted by Indonesia in connection with the agenda item “United Nations peacekeeping operations” (S/2020/838), 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 27 August 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 27 August 2020 from the President of the Security Council relating to the draft resolution submitted under the agenda item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations”, as contained in document S/2020/838, I would like to hereby inform you that Viet Nam votes in favour.

(Signed) **Dang Dinh Quy**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations

Annex XVII

Statement by the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations, Dian Triansyah Djani

Indonesia welcomes the unanimous adoption of the resolution 2538 (2020), on women in peacekeeping operations.

As the penholder, we thank all members of the Security Council for their support and constructive engagement during the negotiation process. We deeply appreciate all sponsoring States within the Council, as well as other Member States for their contribution and support for this resolution.

The resolution represents an important milestone, since it is the first time that the Council has adopted a stand-alone resolution on the subject of women in peacekeeping operations. It reflects the high priority that the international community has accorded to the indispensable role of women in United Nations peacekeeping operations.

Resolution 2538 (2020) recognizes the indispensable role of women in peacekeeping operations and calls upon the Member States, the Secretariat and regional organizations to strengthen their collective efforts to promote the full, effective and meaningful participation of uniformed and civilian women in peacekeeping operations at all levels and in all positions, including in senior leadership positions.

It encourages strengthening partnerships to support targeted training and capacity-building for uniformed women personnel and the establishment of networks among women peacekeepers. It also urges Member States and the Secretariat to ensure a safe, enabling and gender-sensitive working environment for women in peacekeeping, including by providing them adequate and appropriate infrastructure and facilities.

Indonesia's initiative to promote this resolution is in line with our long-standing and strong commitment to supporting peacekeeping operations as well as the women and peace and security agenda. We are strongly committed to increasing the participation of our women in peacekeeping operations. Since 1999, more than 570 Indonesian women peacekeepers have been deployed in peacekeeping missions around the world. It is our firm belief that investing in women equals investing in peace.

We hope that the Council will continue to work together with all countries and partners to translate the resolution into befitting outcomes.

Annex XVIII**Statement from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, Vassily Nebenzia**

[Original: English and Russian]

The Russian Federation voted in favour of resolution 2538 (2020), on women in United Nations peacekeeping operations.

We would like to express our appreciation to Indonesia, as the coordinator of the negotiations. Its efforts to strike a balance among the wide range of views of Council members made it possible to adopt the final document unanimously.

We stress the importance of ensuring women's meaningful participation in United Nations peacekeeping operations, as well as equal opportunities and conditions for their involvement in peacekeeping activities.

At the same time, we are convinced that this process requires a thoughtful approach, which makes it necessary to take into account the needs and security situation of each mission. The competitive advantages and required professional skills to implement mandated tasks also needs to be assessed. We also underline the importance of ensuring wide geographical representation when appointing women to leadership positions in peacekeeping operations.

The primary responsibility for increasing the number of women in uniformed peacekeeping contingents lies with States. As such, we must consider the opinions and views of troop- and police-contributing countries in that regard, as well as each country's approach to staffing.
