



## Security Council

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### Letter dated 19 September 2020 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) of 20 July 2015.

I also have the honour to refer to the letter dated 20 August 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2020/815](#)) transmitting a letter of the same date from the Secretary of State of the United States of America addressed to the President of the Security Council.

By that letter, the Secretary of State notified the Security Council that the United States believed the Islamic Republic of Iran to be in significant non-performance of its commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action and stated that, pursuant to that notification, the process set forth in paragraphs 11 and 12 of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) leading to the reimposition of specified measures terminated under paragraph 7 (a) had been initiated.

Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 11 of Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#), the Security Council has taken no action subsequent to the receipt of the letter from the United States Secretary of State, nor have any of its members or its President. The majority of the members of the Security Council have written to the President of the Council to the effect that the letter did not constitute a notification within the meaning of paragraph 11 of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#). The President of the Council for the month of August and the President of the Council for the month of September indicated that they were not in a position to take any action with regard to this matter.

In these circumstances, there would appear to be uncertainty as to whether or not the process set forth in paragraph 11 of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) was indeed initiated and, concomitantly, whether or not the terminations in paragraph 7 (a) of that resolution continue in effect. It is not for the Secretary-General to proceed as if no such uncertainty exists.

In this regard, I wish to recall that the Secretariat provides support of various kinds as required by the Security Council to implement the sanctions regimes that it has established, including to sanctions committees and, where the Council has requested the Secretary-General to create a panel of experts, engaging the relevant experts for the panel in consultation with the Council or committee and providing administrative and technical support to the panel. It also maintains websites with information concerning each Security Council sanctions regime, including the nature and scope of the sanctions measures, the relevant resolutions and documents of the



Council, lists of designated persons, groups and entities, as well as a consolidated list based on all Security Council sanctions regimes.

Pending clarification by the Security Council as to whether or not the terminations in paragraph 7 (a) of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) continue in effect, the Secretariat stands ready to provide the required support at the direction of and in coordination with the Security Council or a reconstituted Committee established pursuant to resolution [1737 \(2006\)](#). The support that the Secretariat is prepared to provide includes, for example, developing briefing materials for the Chair and members of a reconstituted Committee established pursuant to resolution [1737 \(2006\)](#), making arrangements for meetings of the Committee, undertaking steps to re-establish a website for the Committee (including the previous sanctions list established pursuant to resolution [1737 \(2006\)](#)), preparing budget materials for a reconstituted Panel of Experts and preparing to start the recruitment process for the Panel of Experts (vacancy announcements, interviews and contracts).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* António **Guterres**

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