Letter dated 21 September 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to paragraph 11 of resolution 2231 (2015), on 20 August the United States notified the President of the Security Council of Iran’s significant non-performance of commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. Accordingly, pursuant to paragraph 12 of resolution 2231 (2015), since the Security Council has not adopted a resolution to continue in effect the terminations in paragraph 7 (a) of resolution 2231 (2015), effective midnight Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) on 20 September 2020, all of the provisions of resolutions 1696 (2006), 1737 (2006), 1747 (2007), 1803 (2008), 1835 (2008) and 1929 (2010) that were terminated by resolution 2231 (2015) apply in the same manner as they applied before the adoption of resolution 2231 (2015). In addition, the measures contained in paragraphs 7, 8 and 16 to 20 of resolution 2231 (2015) are terminated.

As is clear from the text of paragraph 12 of resolution 2231 (2015), the provisions terminated by resolution 2231 (2015) shall be reapplied, and the relevant sections of resolution 2231 (2015) shall be terminated, if the Security Council does not adopt a resolution to continue in effect the terminations within the specified time period. Furthermore, the process established in paragraphs 11 to 15 of resolution 2231 (2015) at no point requires that there be consensus among members of the Security Council for the reimposition of the relevant measures to take effect. Thus, because the Security Council has not adopted a resolution to continue in effect the terminations, and irrespective of the fact that no such resolution was introduced or voted on, the relevant measures were reimposed at midnight GMT on 20 September. These measures include:

Nuclear-related measures

• A requirement that Iran suspend enrichment-, reprocessing- and heavy water-related activities, as well as a requirement that Iran provide the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) with access and cooperation so that IAEA can verify Iran’s suspension of those activities [resolution 1737 (2006), paras. 2, 8]

• A prohibition on Member States from transferring to Iran:
  o Items on the Nuclear Suppliers Group trigger list and dual-use list (subject to certain exceptions, including certain items for light water reactors) [resolution 1737 (2006), paras. 3–4; resolution 1803 (2008), para. 8; resolution 1929 (2010), para. 13]
  o Any other item if the relevant Member State determines that it would contribute to Iran’s enrichment-, reprocessing- or heavy water-related activities [resolution 1737 (2006), para. 4; resolution 1929 (2010), para. 13]
A prohibition on Member States from providing technical assistance or training, financial assistance, and investment, brokering or other services relating to items whose transfer to Iran is prohibited as noted above [resolution 1737 (2006), para. 6]

A prohibition on Iran from exporting, and on other Member States from procuring from Iran, items on the Nuclear Suppliers Group trigger and dual-use lists [resolution 1737 (2006), para. 7]

A prohibition on the provision to Iran of technical cooperation by IAEA or under its auspices except for food, agricultural, medical, safety or other humanitarian purposes (with a limited exception for technical cooperation related to light water reactors) [resolution 1737 (2006), para. 16]

A prohibition on Iran from acquiring an interest in any commercial activity in another Member State involving uranium mining, production, or use of certain nuclear materials or technology, or any heavy-water activities, and a requirement that Member States prohibit Iran from acquiring such an interest [resolution 1929 (2010), para. 7]

**Ballistic missile-related measures**

A prohibition on Iran from undertaking any activity related to ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons, including launches using ballistic missile technology, and a prohibition on Member States from transferring to Iran technology or technical assistance related to such activities [resolution 1929 (2010), para. 9]

A prohibition on Member States from transferring to Iran:

- Items on the Missile Technology Control Regime list [resolution 1737 (2006), para. 3; resolution 1803 (2008), para. 8; resolution 1929 (2010), para. 13]

  - Any other item if the relevant Member State determines that it would contribute to the development of nuclear weapon delivery systems [resolution 1737 (2006), para. 4; resolution 1929 (2010), para. 13]

A prohibition on Member States from providing technical assistance or training, financial assistance, and investment, brokering or other services relating to items whose transfer to Iran is prohibited as noted above [resolution 1737 (2006), para. 6]

A prohibition on Iran from exporting, and on other Member States from procuring from Iran, items on the Missile Technology Control Regime list [resolution 1737 (2006), para. 7]

A prohibition on Iran from acquiring an interest in any commercial activity in another Member State involving certain missile technology, and a requirement that Member States prohibit Iran from acquiring such an interest [resolution 1929 (2010), para. 7]

**Arms embargo**

A prohibition on Iran from exporting, and on other Member States from procuring from Iran, all arms and related materiel [resolution 1747 (2007), para. 5]

A prohibition on Member States from transferring to Iran certain conventional arms (battle tanks, armoured combat vehicles, large-calibre artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships, certain missiles and missile systems), as well as training, services, advice, assistance related to such arms [resolution 1929 (2010), para. 8]
Targeted sanctions on individuals and entities

- An obligation on Member States to freeze the assets of designated individuals and entities [resolution 1737 (2006), paras. 12–15]
- An obligation on Member States to implement a travel ban on designated individuals [resolution 1803 (2008), paras. 5–6; resolution 1929 (2010), para. 10]

Other provisions

- A requirement for Member States to seize and dispose of items the transfer of which is prohibited by certain provisions of relevant resolutions [resolution 1929 (2010), para. 16]
- A prohibition on the provision of bunkering services to Iranian-owned or Iranian-contracted vessels if the Member State has reasonable grounds to believe that the vessels are carrying items the transfer of which is prohibited by certain provisions of relevant resolution [resolution 1929 (2010), para. 18]
- An obligation for Member States to require individuals and entities subject to their jurisdiction to exercise vigilance when doing business with certain Iranian entities if such business could contribute to Iran’s prohibited activities [resolution 1929 (2010), para. 22]
- The establishment of a Committee of the Security Council (the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006)) to oversee the sanctions regime established by the Security Council [resolution 1737 (2006), para. 18]
- The establishment of a Panel of Experts to assist the Committee; gather, examine and analyse relevant information, make recommendations and report to the Security Council [resolution 1929 (2010), para. 29]

Since the Security Council did not adopt a resolution to the contrary, at midnight GMT on 20 September, all Member States are obligated to implement the reimposed measures, including those identified above, and the relevant provisions of resolution 2231 (2015) have been terminated. In addition, the Secretariat now must take the steps necessary to re-establish the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006) and its Panel of Experts.

I ask that you circulate the text of the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kelly Craft
Ambassador
Representative of the United States
to the United Nations