

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 10 November 2015 from the Chair of the
Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999)
and 1989 (2011) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals
and entities addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities, presenting its position on the recommendations contained in the seventeenth report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team established pursuant to resolution 1526 (2004), which was submitted to the Committee in accordance with paragraph (a) of annex I to resolution 2161 (2014).

I should be grateful if the attached report could be brought to the attention of the Council members and issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gerard **van Bohemen**
Chair

Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999)
and 1989 (2011) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities



Recommendations contained in the seventeenth report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team submitted pursuant to resolution 2161 (2014)

I. Introduction

1. On 31 March 2015, the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team submitted its seventeenth report to the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities, in accordance with paragraph (a) of annex I of Security Council resolution 2161 (2014). The Committee wishes to express its gratitude to the Monitoring Team for its exemplary work in pursuance of its mandate.

2. Since December 2005, as a matter of practice, the Committee has responded to each report submitted to it by the Monitoring Team, bringing to the attention of the Security Council the Committee's position on the recommendations contained in those reports.

II. Countering violent extremism

3. **Concept of a United Nations summit on countering violent extremism.** The Monitoring Team recommended that the Committee request the Security Council, given the global urgency of countering violent extremism and the extensive threat that Al-Qaida-associated terrorism posed to Member States, to promote the concept of a United Nations summit on countering violent extremism, to support the continuing efforts by the General Assembly and the Security Council to address that challenge.

4. Since March 2015, when the Monitoring Team submitted that recommendation, high-level events on the matter have been held, and more are planned. The Committee recognizes the importance of countering violent extremism and supports the ongoing work of the United Nations in that area, including the proposed action plan of the Secretary-General on preventing violent extremism.

5. **Briefing by Internet and social media companies.** The Monitoring Team recommended that the Committee invite relevant Internet and social media companies to brief the Committee on their efforts to respond to the exploitation of their services by Al-Qaida and associates, including Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (listed as Al-Qaida in Iraq, QDe.115), in 2015.

6. The Committee agreed to take up the recommendation in a modified form, to avoid duplication of effort. Specifically, the Chair would liaise with the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism on its planned special meeting in November on "Preventing terrorists from exploiting the Internet and social media to recruit terrorists and incite terrorist acts, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms", to discuss whether there could be a role for the Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee.

III. Outreach and reporting

7. **Questionnaire seeking information on the effect of Al-Qaida sanctions in countries.** The Monitoring Team recommended that a questionnaire be sent to Member States in September 2015, seeking information by the end of March 2016 on the effects of Security Council Al-Qaida sanctions in each country, including specific information on assets frozen, travel by listed individuals intercepted or discovered, and disrupted arms transfers to listed individuals and entities.
8. The Committee was not able to agree on that recommendation.

IV. Asset freeze

9. **Promotion of public awareness and reporting on suspicious terrorist financing activities related to Al-Qaida and associates.** Building on paragraph 13 of resolution 2161 (2014), the Monitoring Team recommended that the Committee urge Member States to take appropriate measures, in accordance with domestic laws and practices, (a) to promote public awareness of the threat posed by Al-Qaida and associates and of the obligation to ensure that no funds, financial assets or economic resources were made available directly or indirectly for the benefit of Al-Qaida and those associated with it, and (b) to encourage non-profit organizations, other groups and businesses outside the financial and designated non-financial businesses and professions sectors, and the general public, to report, including anonymously, suspicious terrorist financing activities related to Al-Qaida and associates to the relevant authorities.
10. The Committee agreed to take up that recommendation. The Chair would write to all Member States to urge them to take appropriate measures, in accordance with domestic laws and practices, (a) to promote public awareness of the threat posed by Al-Qaida and associates and of the obligation to ensure that no funds, financial assets or economic resources were made available directly or indirectly for the benefit of Al-Qaida and those associated with it, and (b) to encourage non-profit organizations, other groups and businesses outside the financial and designated non-financial businesses and professions sectors, and the general public, to report, including anonymously, suspicious terrorist financing activities related to Al-Qaida and associates to the relevant national authorities.
11. **Exemption procedures.** The Monitoring Team recommended that the Committee write to relevant Member States by September 2015, highlighting the exemption procedures and including a questionnaire on whether and how the States use exemption procedures in their implementation of the assets freeze, and seeking a response by March 2016.
12. The Committee agreed with that recommendation. The Chair would write to Member States to highlight the exemption procedures related to the assets freeze and the travel ban, encouraging them to use exemption procedures to further strengthen their implementation.

V. Travel ban

13. **INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices.** The Monitoring Team recommended that the Committee, in cooperation with the Monitoring Team and the Secretariat, write once a year to all Member States, listing the names of listed individuals for whom new information (including biometric information) was available on the Special Notices.

14. The Committee agreed to take up that recommendation. The Chair, on behalf of the Committee, sent a note verbale dated 31 August 2015 to all Member States informing them of all listed individuals for whom new information had become available on the Special Notices over the previous year. The Chair would continue to do so on a yearly basis.

VI. Arms embargo

15. **Electric detonators.** The Monitoring Team recommended that the Committee write to Member States to raise awareness that electric detonators were particularly vulnerable to misuse by Al-Qaida and associates.

16. The Committee agreed to take up that recommendation.

17. **Assistance from the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS).** The Monitoring Team recommended that the Committee write to Member States to highlight the growing value of assistance from UNMAS in relation to improvised explosive device disposal activities, in order to raise awareness of its activities to support national authorities in mitigating the threat posed by improvised explosive devices.

18. The Committee was not able to agree on that recommendation.

VII. Maintenance of the Sanctions List

19. **Tackling foreign terrorist fighters' false identification documents.** Given the growing threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters and the increasing need to tackle false identification documents, the Monitoring Team recommended that the Committee, in the light of the importance of circulating photographs of listed individuals, explore options for including photos in the Sanctions List itself by commissioning an options paper by September 2015 from the Monitoring Team, with input from the Secretariat, on how photographs could be integrated into the List.

20. The Committee agreed to take up that recommendation. The Chair requested that the Monitoring Team submit a paper by 1 November 2015, with input from the Secretariat, on how photographs could be technically integrated into the Sanctions List.

21. **Improved ease of access to and use of the Sanctions List.** The Monitoring Team, in order to improve ease of access to, and use of, the Sanctions List, recommended that the Committee request that the Secretariat organize the list entries of individuals and entities on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List in numerical order by permanent reference number.

22. The Committee agreed to take up that recommendation. The Chair would consult with the Secretariat and the Monitoring Team on the feasibility of reorganizing the list entries on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List in numerical order by permanent reference number, if possible, by 30 September 2015.
