United Nations S/2020/408



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Letter dated 14 May 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 2519 (2020), in connection with the agenda item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan". The resolution was adopted on 14 May 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 (COVID-19) pandemic.

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

- My letter dated 13 May 2020, addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council, putting to a vote the draft resolution contained in document S/2020/387 (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 annex XVII).

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

(Signed) Sven **Jürgenson** President of the Security Council





Annex I

Letter dated 13 May 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to 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, as set out 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 issue.

The members of the Council have discussed the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America, regarding the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (S/2020/387). The draft resolution has been put in blue (see enclosure).

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 Wednesday, 13 May 2020. The non-extendable 24-hour voting period will expire at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 14 May 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 Thursday 14 May 2020.

(Signed) Sven **Jürgenson** President of the Security Council

Enclosure

United Nations S/2020/387



Provisional 12 May 2020

Original: English

United States of America: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Reaffirming all previous resolutions and Presidential statements concerning the situation in Abyei and along the border between Sudan and South Sudan and underlining the importance of full compliance with and implementation of these,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Sudan and South Sudan,

Noting that Sudan and South Sudan have undertaken steps to address insecurity in Abyei, such as participating in joint security monitoring, encouraging such activities to continue and commending the role of the Joint Political and Security Mechanism between Sudan and South Sudan in this regard,

Encouraging the African Union, the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel, and the United Nations Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa to intensify their mediation roles with the Governments of Sudan and South Sudan to encourage them to establish temporary administrative and security arrangements for Abyei and to achieve a political solution for the status of Abyei,

Expressing concern about security threats and targeted attacks against peacekeepers in UNISFA, and calling for improving the safety and security of peacekeepers in fulfilling their mandate in this regard,

Recognizing that the current situation in Abyei and along the border between Sudan and South Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security,

- 1. Decides to extend until 15 November 2020 the mandate of UNISFA as set out in paragraph 2 of resolution 1990 (2011) and, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, further decides to extend until 15 November 2020 the tasks of UNISFA as set out in paragraph 3 of resolution 1990 (2011), and further decides that UNISFA should continue to implement that mandate and tasks in accordance with resolution 2497 (2019);
- 2. *Decides* to extend until 15 November 2020 UNISFA's mandate modification set forth in resolution 2024 (2011) and paragraph 1 of resolution 2075 (2012), which provides for UNISFA's support to the Joint Border Verification and

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Monitoring Mechanism (JBVMM), and *further decides* that UNISFA should continue to implement that mandate modification in accordance with resolution 2497 (2019) and that this shall be the final such extension unless the parties take the specific measures described in paragraph 3 of resolution 2497 (2019);

- 3. *Maintains* the authorized troop and police ceilings as set out in paragraphs 4 and 5 of resolution 2497 (2019), and *decides* to allow postponement in the withdrawal of 295 troops above the authorized troop ceiling only until the Secretary-General lifts his COVID-19 related suspension on troop repatriations;
- 4. Reiterates the Security Council's demand for Sudan and South Sudan to provide full support for UNISFA in the implementation of its mandate, specifically the deployment of UNISFA personnel, including by removing any obstacles that hinder UNISFA's work to protect civilians in Abyei;
- 5. Reiterates that the Abyei area shall be demilitarized from any forces, as well as armed elements of the local communities, other than UNISFA and the Abyei Police Service, and *urges* the Governments of Sudan and South Sudan and the local communities to take all necessary steps to ensure that Abyei is effectively demilitarized and to extend full cooperation to UNISFA in this regard;
- 6. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to inform it of progress in implementing UNISFA's mandate as set out in paragraphs 32 and 33 of resolution 2497 (2019), with a note no later than 31 July 2020 and a written report no later than 15 October 2020;
 - 7. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

Annex II

Letter dated 13 May 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 13 May relating to the draft resolution on the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (S/2020/387).

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.

I would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this letter and if you could communicate Belgium's vote to the President of the Security Council at the expiry of the 24 hours voting period.

(Signed) Marc **Pecsteen de Buytswerve**Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations

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Annex III

Letter dated 13 May 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, Mr. President, 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 the United States for the mandate renewal of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (S/2020/387).

(Signed) Zhang Jun
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations

Annex IV

Letter dated 13 May 2020 from the Special Envoy to the Security Council of the Dominican Republic addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to the letter dated 27 March 2020 from the President of the Security Council for the month of March, noting the agreement among Security Council members, amid the current extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease pandemic, to provide our vote in writing within a non-extendable period of 24 hours, and to the letter dated 13 May 2020 (S/2020/253), in which the President of the Security Council puts to a vote draft resolution for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force in Abyei (S/2020/387), the Dominican Republic would like to submit its vote.

In that regard, upon instructions from my Government, the Dominican Republic votes in favour of draft resolution S/2020/387 for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force in Abyei.

(Signed) José Singer Weisinger Ambassador Special Envoy to the Security Council

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Annex V

Letter dated 13 May 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 the Council, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the United Nations Charter, that my delegation votes in favour of the draft resolution for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (S/2020/387).

(Signed) Sven **Jürgenson**Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations

Annex VI

Letter dated 13 May 2020 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

In reference to the letter dated 13 May 2020 from the President of the Security Council, inviting all members of the Council to vote on the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America for the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (S/2020/387), France votes in favour.

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

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Annex VII

Letter dated 13 May 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 reply to your letter dated 13 May 2020, initiating a written voting procedure, in line with the agreement reached between the members of the Security Council in the light of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease pandemic.

The vote of the Federal Republic of Germany on the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei, as contained in document S/2020/387, is as follows:

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

(Signed) Juergen Schulz

Ambassador

Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations

Annex VIII

Letter dated 13 May 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 13 May 2020 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Estonia to the United Nations, in his capacity as the President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (S/2020/387).

I hereby indicate that Indonesia votes in favour of the draft resolution. I should be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this letter.

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

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Annex IX

Note verbale dated 13 May 2020 from the Permanent Mission of the Niger to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Permanent Mission of the Niger to the United Nations in New York presents its compliments to the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Security Council Affairs Division, and has the honour to refer to the letter of the President of the Security Council for the month of May (Estonia) dated 7 May 2020, noting the agreed provisional procedure for the adoption of draft resolutions during the coronavirus disease pandemic.

On the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America, extending the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei to 15 November 2020 (S/2020/387), the Republic of the Niger votes in favour.

Annex X

Letter dated 13 May 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 13 May 2020, on the beginning of the voting procedure for the draft resolution for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (S/2020/387).

In accordance with the procedure for the adoption of resolutions of the Security Council being in place for the duration of the restrictions on movement in New York due to the coronavirus disease pandemic, outlined in the letter dated 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/2020/387.

(Signed) Vassily **Nebenzia**Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations

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Annex XI

Letter dated 13 May 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 the United States of America for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (S/2020/387).

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 13 May 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 13 May 2020 regarding the draft resolution for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (S/2020/387).

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

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Annex XIII

Letter dated 13 May 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 13 May 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Estonia, in his capacity as President of the Security Council, regarding the draft resolution submitted by the United States of America for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei, contained in document S/2020/387, I would like to inform you that Tunisia votes in favour of the draft resolution.

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

Annex XIV

Letter dated 14 May from the Deputy Permanent Representative 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 from the President of the Security Council of 13 May 2020, the United Kingdom votes in favour of the draft resolution (S/2020/387) regarding the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA).

(Signed) Jonathan Allen
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland to the United Nations

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Annex XV

Letter dated 13 May 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 the United States of America for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (S/2020/387), the United States of America votes in favour. An explanation of vote is attached below.

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

Annex XVI

Letter dated 13 May 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 13 May 2020 from the President of the Security Council relating to the draft resolution for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei submitted by the United States of America, as contained in document S/2020/387, and in accordance with the understanding and 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 for the month of May 2020 (S/2020/372), I hereby inform you that Viet Nam has decided to vote in favour of the above-mentioned draft resolution and does not intend to make any statement on the matter at this stage.

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

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Annex XVII

Statement by the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, Kelly Craft

The United States thanks fellow Council members for demonstrating their ongoing support to the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA). We would also like to extend particular thanks to Ethiopia for its contributions to UNISFA.

As both the Sudan and South Sudan respond to coronavirus disease and engage in their own political transitions, the people of Abyei must not be forgotten. They deserve to live peacefully, without fear of attack or intimidation. Abyei's women in particular should be supported to fully, effectively and meaningfully participate in discussions about their own security and future.

Reports of violence and tensions in Abyei are disturbing, and the continued loss of life remains unacceptable. We call for restraint from the local communities and dialogue and look to the Sudan and South Sudan to deliver on establishing temporary security and administrative arrangements that can provide a framework for lasting peace in this sensitive area. That step is critical to supporting long-term peace efforts in both South Sudan and the Sudan and in the broader region.

With this renewed mandate, the Security Council reiterates that the Sudan and South Sudan should remove all obstacles to the implementation of UNISFA's mandate, including by allowing the deployment of UNISFA personnel to improve the protection of civilians. We also reiterate our call for senior United Nations officials and the African Union to step up their engagement with the Sudan and South Sudan in order to maintain momentum towards resolving Abyei's status and ensuring UNISFA can fully implement its mandate.

The United States remains committed to supporting peace and security in Abyei and in the Sudan and South Sudan.