



Security Council

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Letter dated 20 September 2020 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to my letter dated 20 August 2020 and would like to bring to your attention China's position on the United States announcement yesterday on the restoration of Security Council sanctions against Iran.

The United States unilaterally withdrew from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in May 2018 and is no longer a JCPOA participant. Therefore, it is illegitimate for the United States to demand that the Security Council invoke the snapback mechanism.

In response to the United States letter dated 20 August 2020, 13 members of the Security Council wrote to the President of the Council and clearly stated that the United States letter does not constitute a notification specified in paragraph 11 of Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#). Any decision or action resulting from the United States letter is devoid of any legal, political or practical effect. Their view was also reflected by the President in his conclusion on 25 August.

Given the above, the snapback mechanism shall not be deemed as invoked. The provisions of resolutions [1696 \(2006\)](#), [1737 \(2006\)](#), [1747 \(2007\)](#), [1803 \(2008\)](#), [1835 \(2008\)](#) and [1929 \(2010\)](#) will continue to be terminated pursuant to paragraph 7 (a) of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#) after 20 September.

I would also like to reiterate that China is committed to upholding the efficacy of the JCPOA and the authority of the Security Council resolution and will make relentless efforts towards the political solution of the Iranian nuclear issue.

It would be greatly appreciated if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

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

