

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 16 December 2021 from the Chair of the  
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution  
[1988 \(2011\)](#) addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#), containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2021. The report, which was approved by the Committee, is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 ([S/1995/234](#)).

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

(Signed) T. S. Tirumurti

Chair

Security Council Committee established  
pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#)



## Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011)

[Original: English]

### I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011) covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2021.
2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of T.S. Tirumurti (India) as Chair and representatives of the Russian Federation and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines as Vice-Chairs.

### II. Background

3. By its resolution 1267 (1999), the Security Council imposed limited air and financial embargoes to compel the Taliban to cease providing sanctuary and training to terrorists, including Usama bin Laden. Between April 2000 and September 2001, the Committee listed 151 individuals and 10 entities associated with the Taliban (including the national airline and the Central Bank of Afghanistan) and 10 individuals associated with Al-Qaida. The Council modified the regime in resolutions 1333 (2000) and 1390 (2002) to impose three targeted measures (an assets freeze, a travel ban and an arms embargo) against individuals and entities associated with the Taliban and Al-Qaida. Exemptions to the assets freeze and travel ban are available.
4. On 17 June 2011, the Council unanimously adopted resolutions 1988 (2011) and 1989 (2011), by which it split the regime in two, establishing one committee for the Taliban and another for Al-Qaida. The sanctions measures against the Taliban and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities were imposed in resolution 1988 (2011), followed by resolutions 2082 (2012), 2160 (2014), 2255 (2015), 2501 (2019), 2557 (2020) and 2611 (2021).
5. By its resolution 2611 (2021), the Security Council renewed the mandate of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team pursuant to resolutions 1526 (2004) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities for a period of 12 months from the date of expiration of the mandate in December 2021 and requested the Monitoring Team to submit a further annual report to the Council. In its resolution 2611 (2021), the Council also reaffirmed the assets freeze, travel ban and arms embargo on individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with the Taliban constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan, as designated by the Committee in the sanctions list established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011).
6. By its resolution 2615 (2021), the Security Council separately acknowledged concern regarding the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan. The Council decided that the provision of humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan did not constitute a violation of paragraph 1 (a) of resolution 2255 (2015), and permitted the processing and payment of funds, other financial assets or economic resources, and the provision of goods and services needed to support humanitarian aid delivery. It further decided that a review of implementation would be carried out after a period of one year.
7. Both the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011) and the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings

and entities are supported by the Monitoring Team. The Monitoring Team consisted initially of 8 experts, and the number was increased to 10 experts in resolution [2253 \(2015\)](#).

8. On 24 August 2017, the President of the Security Council issued a statement ([S/PRST/2017/15](#)) concluding that, after having reviewed the implementation of the measures outlined in resolution [2253 \(2015\)](#), no further adjustments to the measures were necessary, and requesting the Monitoring Team to submit two annual reports, the first one on 30 April 2018.

9. Further background information on the Taliban sanctions regime can be found in the previous annual reports of the Committee.

### III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

10. The Committee met once in informal consultations, on 30 November, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures. The Committee also held one joint briefing, on 3 December, with the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities.

11. In the light of the continuing challenges posed by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic to the Committee's usual procedures, including the limitations on holding in-person meetings, and to ensure the continuity of its work, the members of the Committee agreed, on an exceptional basis, to hold informal consultations, in the form of a closed videoconference, on 24 February and 19 May.

12. During the closed videoconference held on 24 February, the Committee heard a briefing of the then National Security Adviser of Afghanistan, Hamdullah Mohib.

13. During the closed videoconference held on 19 May, the Committee heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Monitoring Team on its twelfth report ([S/2021/486](#)), which was submitted to the Committee in accordance with paragraph (a) of the annex to resolution [2557 \(2020\)](#).

14. On 30 November, during informal consultations, the Committee heard briefings on the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan from representatives of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Food Programme. During the briefings, the representatives put forward arguments for the 1988 sanctions regime to allow for a humanitarian exception in support of resolution [2593 \(2021\)](#) to allow for the delivery of aid by humanitarian organizations.

15. On 3 December, the Committee held one joint briefing for all Member States with the Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities. During the joint briefing, the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#) and the Coordinator of the Monitoring Team reported on undertakings and entities associated with the Taliban in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan.

16. The Committee provided additional guidance to all Member States by issuing three notes verbales, dated 23 March, 23 June and 21 September, on the travel ban exemption for 14 individuals. It also issued a note verbale dated 5 February on information gathering in preparation for the Monitoring Team's twelfth report pursuant to resolution [2501 \(2019\)](#) concerning the Taliban and other associated

individuals and entities constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan.

17. The Committee sent 7 communications to 1 Member State and other stakeholders.

## **IV. Exemptions**

18. Exemptions to the assets freeze are contained in paragraphs 1 and 2 of resolution [1452 \(2002\)](#), as amended by resolution [1735 \(2006\)](#), and in paragraphs 17 and 18 of resolution [2255 \(2015\)](#).

19. Exemptions to the travel ban are contained in paragraphs 1 and 2 of resolution [1452 \(2002\)](#), as amended by resolution [1735 \(2006\)](#), and in paragraphs 19 to 22 of resolution [2255 \(2015\)](#).

20. On 23 March, 23 June, 21 September and 22 December, the Committee decided to extend previously approved travel ban and related assets freeze exemptions for 14 individuals for 90-day periods. The exemptions were granted solely for travel required for participation in peace and stability discussions anticipated to occur in a range of countries.

## **V. Sanctions list**

21. The criteria for the designation of individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban, assets freeze and arms embargo are set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution [2255 \(2015\)](#). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work, and standard forms for listing and delisting are available on the Committee's website.

22. No entries were added to or removed from the list. The Committee made no amendments to existing entries on its sanctions list. As at the end of the reporting period, there were 135 individuals and five entities on the sanctions list of the Committee.

## **VI. Monitoring Team**

23. The Monitoring Team comprises 10 experts with broad experience in international counter-terrorism issues and specific experience in Afghanistan.

24. On 28 April, in accordance with paragraph (a) of the annex to resolution [2557 \(2020\)](#), the Monitoring Team provided its twelfth report concerning the Taliban and other associated individuals and entities constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan ([S/2021/486](#)), which was transmitted to the Security Council on 20 May and issued as a document of the Council.

25. On 16 December 2020 and on 22 June 2021, in accordance with resolutions [2255 \(2015\)](#) and [2368 \(2017\)](#), the Monitoring Team submitted its combined biannual travel plans to the Committee and to the Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities for the periods from January to June 2021 and from July to December 2021.

26. The Monitoring Team conducted no visits to Afghanistan, owing initially to COVID-19 and, later, to the collapse of the Government of Afghanistan on 15 August and subsequent takeover by the Taliban. Prior to the collapse of the Government, in

February, March and April the Team held four virtual meetings with the National Security Council and National Directorate for Security of Afghanistan, the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum, the Ministry for Peace and with the Deputy National Security Adviser. The Team also held two virtual meetings with representatives of the intelligence and security services of Pakistan, in April and December. Following those virtual meetings, the Team conducted visits to Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in October and November. The Team also organized the eighteenth regional meeting of heads of intelligence and security services, held in Vienna in June.

27. The Monitoring Team held meetings with incoming members of the Security Council in order to raise awareness of the Team's mandate and work.

28. In pursuance of its mandate, the Monitoring Team, through the Secretariat, sent 7 letters to Member States, regional and international organizations, national entities and the Committee.

29. Given the unprecedented context of events since August 2021, and in response to a proposal submitted by the Coordinator of the Monitoring Team regarding the review of individuals on the 1988 sanctions list in accordance with paragraph 39 of resolution 2255 (2015), the Committee supported the postponing of the 1988 annual review until a time to be agreed later by the Committee.

## **VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support**

30. The Security Council Affairs Division provided substantive and procedural support to the Chair and the members of the Committee. Advisory support was also provided to Member States to promote understanding of the sanctions regime and facilitate the implementation of the sanctions measures. Induction briefings were also provided to incoming members of the Council to familiarize them with the specific issues relevant to the sanctions regime. To complement those briefings, from 3 to 6 December the Secretariat conducted a pilot issues-based training session on the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, adjustments and redesign of sanctions for incoming members of the Council.

31. The Division worked with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance to facilitate the conduct of in-person meetings in line with relevant COVID-19 guidance and restrictions and continued to make virtual meetings available as an alternative.

32. To support the Committee in its recruitment of well-qualified experts to serve on sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels, a note verbale was sent to all Member States on 2 December to request the nomination of qualified candidates for the roster of experts. In addition, three note verbales were sent to all Member States, on 8 January and 28 May, notifying them of three upcoming vacancies on the Monitoring Team and providing information on recruitment timelines, areas of expertise and pertinent requirements. On 6 January and 26 May, the three vacancy announcements were made available online at [careers.un.org](https://careers.un.org).

33. The Division continued to provide support to the Monitoring Team, assisting in the preparation of the Team's twelfth report, submitted to the Committee on 28 April 2021. The Secretariat facilitated travel by Team experts to meet with Member States and other stakeholders, taking into account World Health Organization guidelines, national travel advisories and other COVID-19 related requirements. The Secretariat organized a workshop on incidents of intimidation and reprisals associated with United Nations cooperation, held on 1 December. In addition, the Secretariat

organized training sessions for experts on the use of databases provided through the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, to facilitate their monitoring and reporting work.

34. The Secretariat continued to update and maintain the United Nations Security Council Consolidated List and the committee-specific sanctions lists in the six official languages and the three technical formats. Furthermore, the Secretariat implemented improvements concerning the effective utilization of and access to the lists, as well as further developing, in all official languages, the data model approved in 2011 by the Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, as requested by the Council in paragraph 54 of its resolution [2368 \(2017\)](#). In December, the Secretariat held informal meetings with relevant stakeholders to present the structure of the new data model for both the Consolidated List and committee-specific sanctions lists before the official roll-out of the new model.

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