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Letter dated 13 December 2022 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya 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 1970 (2011) concerning Libya, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2022. 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) Ruchira Kamboj Chair Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya





Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya

I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2022.

2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of T. S. Tirumurti (1 January to 30 June), Ravindra Raguttahalli (1 July to 3 August) and Ruchira Kamboj (4 August to 31 December) (India) as Chair, and a representative of Ireland as Vice-Chair.

II. Background

By its resolution 1970 (2011), the Security Council established the Committee 3. and imposed an embargo on transfers of arms and related materiel both to and from Libya, as well as a travel ban and an asset freeze on designated individuals and entities, and outlined exemptions to those measures. The Committee is tasked with, among other things, overseeing the implementation of the sanctions measures. By its resolution 1973 (2011), the Council established a panel of experts to assist the Committee in carrying out its mandate and imposed additional measures relating to Libya, including the authorization to protect civilians, the establishment of a no-fly zone and a ban on flights of Libyan aircraft, in addition to authorizing inspections, including on the high seas, in relation to the arms embargo. In both resolutions, the Council outlined criteria for designation under the travel ban and asset freeze measures and listed specific individuals and/or entities as subject to those measures. Subsequently, in its resolutions 2009 (2011), 2016 (2011), 2040 (2012) and 2095 (2013), the Council terminated or eased some of the measures and introduced further exemptions thereto, delisted two entities and terminated the authorization for inspections, including on the high seas.

4. By its resolution 2146 (2014), the Security Council decided to impose measures, such as prohibitions on loading, transporting or discharging crude oil, entering ports, bunkering services or other servicing, and financial transactions, in relation to designated vessels attempting to export crude oil illicitly from Libya. Exemptions to the measures were also included. Subsequently, in its resolution 2362 (2017), the Council decided to extend the measures, making them applicable to vessels loading, transporting or discharging petroleum, including crude oil and refined petroleum products, illicitly exported or being attempted to be exported from Libya. By its resolution 2174 (2014), the Council reinforced the arms embargo and expanded the designation criteria, which it further elaborated in its resolutions 2213 (2015), 2362 (2017) and 2441 (2018).

5. Provisions for Member States to inspect, in their territory, cargo to and from Libya and designated vessels on the high seas were included in the sanctions regime in the context of the enforcement of the arms embargo and of the measures aimed at preventing the illicit export of petroleum from Libya. By its resolution 2292 (2016), the Security Council also authorized, for 12 months, inspections on the high seas off the coast of Libya of vessels believed to be carrying arms or related materiel to or from Libya in violation of the arms embargo, provided that good-faith efforts were made to first obtain the consent of a vessel's flag State. Such authorization was renewed in resolutions 2357 (2017), 2420 (2018), 2473 (2019), 2526 (2020), 2578 (2021) and 2635 (2022) for additional, successive periods of 12 months. By its resolution 2644 (2022), the Council extended for a further 15 months the

authorizations and measures set out in resolution 2146 (2014) and previously extended in resolutions 2213 (2015), 2278 (2016), 2362 (2017), 2441 (2018) and 2509 (2020) and as modified in resolution 2509 (2020).

6. The membership of the Panel of Experts on Libya initially consisted of eight experts, was then reduced to five experts under resolution 2040 (2012) and was then again increased to six experts under resolution 2146 (2014). The Panel's mandate was most recently extended in resolution 2644 (2022).

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

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

8. The Committee met twice in informal consultations, on 20 May and 4 November, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures.

9. During the informal consultations held on 20 May, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on its final report, submitted in accordance with paragraph 13 of resolution 2571 (2021), and discussed the recommendation contained therein.

10. During the informal consultations held on 4 November, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on its programme of work pursuant to resolution 2644 (2022).

11. In accordance with paragraph 104 of the annex to the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2017/507), the Committee issued press releases containing summaries of the meetings held on 20 May and 4 November.

12. On 24 January, 16 March, 26 May, 30 August and 16 December, the Security Council heard a briefing by the Chair of the Committee on the activities of the Committee pursuant to paragraph 24 (e) of resolution 1970 (2011) (see S/PV.8952, S/PV.8996, S/PV.9047, S/PV.9120 and S/PV.9223). In such briefings held in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, the Chair recalled his intention to work towards organizing a visit of the Committee to all agreed areas of Libya as soon as possible, subject to logistical and security arrangements.

13. The Committee received 6 implementation reports from five Member States and four inspection reports from a regional organization.

14. The Committee sent 57 communications to 20 Member States and other stakeholders with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures.

IV. Exemptions

15. Exemptions to the arms embargo are contained in paragraph 8 of resolution 2174 (2014), which supersedes the exemption contained in paragraph 13 (a) of resolution 2009 (2011), as modified by paragraph 10 of resolution 2095 (2013); paragraph 13 (b) of resolution 2009 (2011); and paragraph 9 (c) of resolution 1970 (2011).

16. Exemptions to the asset freeze are contained in paragraphs 19 to 21 of resolution 1970 (2011) and paragraph 16 of resolution 2009 (2011).

17. Exemptions to the travel ban are contained in paragraph 16 of resolution 1970 (2011).

18. Exemptions to the measures in relation to attempts to illicitly export petroleum, including crude oil and refined petroleum products, from Libya are contained in paragraphs 10 (c) and 12 of resolution 2146 (2014).

19. The Committee approved one arms embargo exemption request invoking paragraph 9 (c) of resolution 1970 (2011). No negative decision was taken by the Committee in connection with an arms embargo notification invoking paragraph 13 (b) of resolution 2009 (2011).

20. No negative decision was taken by the Committee in connection with four asset freeze notifications citing paragraph 19 (a) of resolution 1970 (2011). The Committee also received a notification, invoking paragraph 19 (a), on which it took no negative decision in relation to part of the notified amount. In connection with an additional notification invoking paragraph 19 (a), the Committee recalled its previous position on the matter whereby the notification had been successfully cleared in the Committee. The Committee also approved two asset freeze notifications invoking paragraph 19 (b) of resolution 1970 (2011). The Committee received two notifications invoking paragraph 21 of resolution 1970 (2011). The Committee acknowledged receipt of one of them and responded that, for the other, it did not appear to the Committee that the conditions in paragraph 21 of resolution 1970 (2011) had been met in relation to the proposed transaction. The Committee also responded to a notification invoking paragraph 21 of resolution 1970 (2011), submitted in 2021, indicated that the payment should be acceptable under paragraph 19 (a) and sought additional information to conclusively determine that the payment fell within the scope of that paragraph.

21. The Committee extended for a third time, and thereafter a fourth, a previously approved travel ban exemption request invoking paragraph 16 (a) of resolution 1970 (2011), to facilitate travel for humanitarian reasons for a duration of six months, to unlimited destinations, for three individuals currently inscribed on the sanctions list of the Committee. The Committee received three travel notifications from two listed individuals under the aforementioned exemption.

V. Sanctions list

22. The criteria for the designation of individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban and asset freeze are set out in paragraph 22 of resolution 1970 (2011), paragraph 23 of resolution 1973 (2011), paragraph 11 of resolution 2146 (2014), paragraph 4 of resolution 2174 (2014), paragraph 11 of resolution 2213 (2015), paragraph 11 of resolution 2362 (2017) and paragraph 11 of resolution 2441 (2018). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.

23. No entries were added to or removed from the list. The Committee updated existing entries on its sanctions list on 28 January 2022 and 18 July 2022. As at the end of the reporting period, there were 29 individuals and two entities on the sanctions list of the Committee.

VI. Panel of Experts

24. On 4 May, in accordance with paragraph 13 of resolution 2571 (2021), the Panel of Experts provided its final report to the Committee (S/2022/427 and S/2022/427/Corr.1), which was transmitted to the Security Council on 24 May and issued as document of the Council.

25. On 12 August, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2644 (2022) on 13 July, the Secretary-General appointed six individuals, with expertise in armed groups, armed groups/international humanitarian law, arms, arms/maritime matters, finance, and regional/transport matters, to serve on the Panel of Experts (see S/2022/618). The mandate of the Panel was extended until 15 November 2023.

26. The Panel of Experts conducted visits to Albania, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

27. In pursuance of its mandate, the Panel of Experts, through the Secretariat, sent 166 letters to 67 Member States, the Security Council, the Committee, international and national entities and individuals.

VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

28. 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 2 to 4 December the Secretariat conducted the second issues-based training session on the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, adjustment and redesign of sanctions for incoming members of the Council.

29. 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 coronavirus disease (COVID-19) guidance and restrictions and continued to make virtual meetings available as an alternative option.

30. To support the Committee in its recruitment of well-qualified experts to serve on sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels, on 25 October the Division launched a module in Inspira to manage the applicant pool of incumbent and prospective experts. Furthermore, the Division conducted an outreach event on 27 October to attract more women applicants to Panels of Experts and to the pool of experts. On 8 December, a note verbale was sent to all Member States to request the nomination of qualified candidates for the pool of experts. In addition, a note verbale was sent to all Member States on 29 April notifying them of upcoming vacancies on the Panel of Experts and providing information on recruitment timelines, areas of expertise and pertinent requirements. On 27 April, vacancy announcements were also made available online at the United Nations career portal (https://careers.un.org).

31. The Division continued to provide support to the Panel of Experts, assisting in the preparation of the Panel's final report, submitted to the Committee in May. The Secretariat facilitated travel by Panel members 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 an inter-panel workshop on 6 and 7 December, which included a high-level panel on the women and peace and security agenda and the importance of gender mainstreaming in monitoring groups, teams and panels. An investigative techniques workshop for experts was held on 8 and 9 December.

32. 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 Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, as requested by the Council in paragraph 54 of resolution 2368 (2017). The implementation of the enhanced data model and its supporting application have been completed and the Division is in the process of migrating and verifying data from the sanctions list in all official languages. In May, the Division published a table of updates to the Consolidated List that have been implemented since 2018.

33. The Secretary-General submitted his report on the implementation of resolution 2578 (2021), pursuant to paragraph 2 of that resolution, on 28 April 2022 (S/2022/360). He also submitted a first report on the implementation of resolution 2635 (2022), pursuant to paragraph 2 of that resolution, on 5 December 2022. The reports contained information concerning authorization for the inspection of vessels on the high seas off the coast of Libya in order to ensure better implementation of the arms embargo.