



Security Council

Distr.: General
4 August 2020

Original: English

Letter dated 4 August 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council

As Indonesia assumes the presidency of the Security Council on 1 August, the restrictions imposed by the Governor of New York State in relation to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) are still in place. New York City entered “phase 4” on 20 July 2020, allowing more economic and social activities to take place, with appropriate precautions. At the same time, United Nations Headquarters has entered “phase 1”, in which, in order to ensure proper physical distancing and reduce the risk of exposure, no more than 400 people are allowed in the complex on any given day. Virtual meetings remain the recommended and preferred option.

The members of the Security Council are in agreement that the decision to convene in-person Council meetings at Headquarters lies with the Council. In line with this agreement, the Council held two in-person meetings during July 2020.

The members of the Council will continue to discuss and collectively decide on the possibility of convening in-person meetings at Headquarters during August 2020, taking into consideration various inputs from the host country, the Secretariat and the overall situation in New York City.

Accordingly, following consultations with the Secretariat and all the members of the Council, the Indonesian presidency will continue to extend and implement the working methods of previous presidencies, as set out in the annex to the letter dated 7 May 2020 from the President of the Council ([S/2020/372](#)), as well as the modalities of in-person meetings of the Council, as set out in the annex to the letter dated 1 July 2020 from the President of the Council ([S/2020/639](#)).

The working methods and modalities are a response to the current exceptional and unprecedented circumstances.

These guidelines will be assessed at the end of August and may be reviewed, adjusted or discontinued, subject to the agreement of all members.

(Signed) Dian Triansyah Djani
President of the Security Council

