



Security Council

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Note by the President of the Security Council

Further to the measures contained in the note by the President of the Security Council of 30 August 2017 ([S/2017/507](#)), and in an effort to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and transparency of the work of the Security Council, the members of the Council have agreed on the following:

(a) The members of the Security Council affirm that the work of the Council is a collective endeavour and responsibility, and support, where appropriate, the informal arrangement whereby one or more Council members (as “penholder” or “co-penholder”) initiate and facilitate the informal drafting process, as well as timely initiatives, of the Council, among other and related tasks;

(b) The members of the Security Council affirm their willingness, and encourage continued efforts, to ensure that the arrangement of penholder or co-penholder reflects openness, a shared responsibility and fair burden-sharing and further agree to the following:

(i) Any member of the Security Council should have the opportunity to be a penholder or co-penholder;

(ii) Any member of the Security Council may add value as a penholder or co-penholder. Such a member or members may include, but shall not be limited to, those with expertise in and contributions to the subjects, regional perspectives on the subjects, chairing of relevant subsidiary bodies and specific interests. In this regard, the members of the Council agree to make enhanced use of such particular expertise and interests with regard to which Council member or members would serve as penholder or co-penholder on country-specific and/or thematic files;

(c) Recalling paragraphs 78 to 88 of the note by the President of the Security Council of 30 August 2017 ([S/2017/507](#)), and without prejudice to the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisional rules of procedure, the members of the Security Council encourage penholders and co-penholders to conduct negotiations in an inclusive and respectful manner by:

(i) Abiding by objectivity and impartiality during the drafting and negotiation process and prioritizing forging consensus, whenever possible, and promoting the unity of the Council;

(ii) Ensuring, as early as possible in the drafting exercise, an exchange of information among all Council members and engaging in timely consultations with all Council members;



(iii) Informally consulting in an early manner with the broader United Nations membership, in particular the Member States concerned, and, as appropriate, taking into full consideration their views and concerns, including when considering mandate renewals or modifications;

(iv) Sharing draft documents as early as possible to provide reasonably sufficient time for consideration by all Council members, bearing in mind that the Council needs to act swiftly if the situation so requires;

(v) Informally consulting the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies concerned before circulating an early draft of a document involving the same country or region, in particular in the case of renewal of sanctions measures or bodies;

(vi) Building consensus, whenever possible, through sufficient informal consultations or informal informals on draft documents among Council members, and making every effort to address divergences among Council members, in a flexible and timely manner;

(vii) Striving to make Council documents, including resolutions, presidential statements and press statements, focused, succinct and action-oriented;

(viii) Striving to ensure, whenever possible, that the silence procedure for draft resolutions is of at least 24 hours to allow sufficient time for Council members to consult their capitals;

(ix) Striving to ensure, whenever possible, that, after draft resolutions are put in blue, at least 24 hours should be allowed for consideration by Council members before drafts are put to a vote;

(d) The members of the Security Council also encourage those members that are not penholders or co-penholders to strive to provide timely feedback, including written comments, during the negotiation of draft documents and to conduct negotiations in a constructive and respectful manner;

(e) The members of the Security Council encourage all members, and in particular penholders and co-penholders, to monitor the implementation of Council decisions by:

(i) Regularly consulting the Secretariat, the broader United Nations membership, in particular the Member States concerned and troop- and police-contributing countries, as appropriate;

(ii) Proposing and organizing additional activities of the Council in monitoring and promoting implementation, as necessary.
