



Security Council

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Letter dated 20 December 2023 from the Chair of 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 addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of 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, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2023. 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) Vanessa **Frazier**
Chair

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



Report of 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

I. Introduction

1. The present report of 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 covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2023.
2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of Vanessa Frazier (Malta) as Chair and representatives of the Russian Federation and the United Arab Emirates 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. The Council subsequently modified the regime by its resolutions [1333 \(2000\)](#) and [1390 \(2002\)](#) and imposed an arms embargo, a travel ban and an assets freeze on designated individuals and entities associated with the Taliban and Al-Qaida. Exemptions to the assets freeze and the travel ban are available.
4. On 17 June 2011, the Security 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. By its resolution [2253 \(2015\)](#), the Council expanded the listing criteria to include those associated with ISIL/Da'esh, in addition to Al-Qaida.
5. By its resolution [2610 \(2021\)](#), adopted on 17 December 2021, the Security Council extended the mandate of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team pursuant to resolutions [1526 \(2004\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities, and the mandate of the Office of the Ombudsperson until 17 June 2024. The Council decided to review the measures with a view to their possible further strengthening in 30 months, or sooner if necessary. By its resolution [2664 \(2022\)](#), the Council decided that the provision, processing or payment of funds, other financial assets, or economic resources, or the provision of goods and services necessary to ensure the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance or to support other activities that support basic human needs by United Nations agencies and other humanitarian actors was not a violation of the assets freeze.
6. Both the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#) are supported by the Monitoring Team. The Monitoring Team initially consisted of 8 experts, and that number was increased to 10 experts in resolution [2253 \(2015\)](#).
7. Further background information on the ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida 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 10 times in informal consultations, on 10 February, 1 and 21 March, 5 April, 12 and 26 May, 21 July, 9 October and 8 and 30 November, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures.

9. The Committee also held one joint briefing with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#), for all Member States, on 3 August.

10. During the informal consultations held on 10 February, the Committee heard a presentation by the Monitoring Team on the Team's thirty-first report ([S/2023/95](#)), submitted in accordance with paragraph (a) of annex I to resolution [2610 \(2021\)](#), and discussed the recommendations contained therein. Thereafter, the Committee considered its list of pending matters.

11. During the informal consultations held on 1 March, the Committee heard a briefing by the Ombudsperson on his findings regarding one delisting request.

12. During the informal consultations held on 21 March, the Committee heard a briefing by the Ombudsperson on his findings regarding two delisting requests. The Committee also considered its list of pending matters.

13. During the informal consultations held on 5 April, the Committee heard a briefing by the Ombudsperson on his findings regarding two delisting requests.

14. During the informal consultations held on 12 May, the Committee received a quarterly briefing from the Monitoring Team in pursuance of paragraph 104 of resolution [2610 \(2021\)](#) and heard a briefing by the Office of Information and Communications Technology on automatic notifications to Member States following updates to the ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida sanctions list. Thereafter, the Committee considered its list of pending matters.

15. During the informal consultations held on 26 May, the Committee heard a briefing by the Ombudsperson on his findings regarding one delisting request.

16. During the informal consultations held on 21 July, the Committee heard a presentation by the Monitoring Team on the Team's thirty-second report ([S/2023/549](#)), submitted in accordance with paragraph (a) of annex I to resolution [2610 \(2021\)](#), and discussed the recommendations contained therein. Thereafter, the Committee considered its list of pending matters.

17. On 3 August, the Committee held one joint briefing for interested Member States with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#). During the joint briefing, the Chair raised awareness of the sanctions regime, enhancing transparency and improving the dialogue between the Committees and the broader United Nations membership. The Coordinator of the Monitoring Team and the Ombudsperson also briefed Member States.

18. During the informal consultations held on 9 October, the Committee received a quarterly briefing from the Monitoring Team in pursuance of paragraph 104 of resolution [2610 \(2021\)](#). Thereafter, the Committee considered its list of pending matters.

19. During the informal consultations held on 8 November, the Committee heard a briefing from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, on behalf of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution [2664 \(2022\)](#). Thereafter, the Committee considered its list of pending matters.

20. On 15 November, the Chair briefed the Security Council on the mandate and general work of the Committee alongside the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism and the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) (see [S/PV.9478](#)).

21. During the informal consultations held on 30 November, the Committee received a briefing by the Secretariat on its support to the Office of the Ombudsperson pursuant to paragraph 68 of resolution [2610 \(2021\)](#).

22. The Committee provided additional guidance to all Member States by issuing 13 notes verbales, including 2 notes verbales sent on 13 March and 23 August, respectively, on the Monitoring Team's recommendations concerning its thirty-first report and the Team's recommendations concerning its thirty-second report, and 1 note verbale sent on 11 July on the joint briefing with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#) for all Member States.

23. The Committee sent 102 communications to more than 60 Member States and other stakeholders, 13 communications to the Office of the Ombudsperson and 1 communication to the Focal Point for Delisting.

IV. Exemptions

24. Exemptions to the assets freeze are contained in paragraphs 1 and 2 of resolution [1452 \(2002\)](#), as amended in resolution [1735 \(2006\)](#), paragraph 75 of resolution [2253 \(2015\)](#) and paragraph 84 of resolution [2610 \(2021\)](#).

25. Exemptions to the travel ban are contained in paragraphs 2 (b) and 10 of resolution [2253 \(2015\)](#), paragraphs 1 (b) and 10 of resolution [2610 \(2021\)](#) and section 12 of the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.

26. Pursuant to paragraphs 10 and 76 of resolution [2253 \(2015\)](#) and paragraphs 10 and 86 of resolution [2610 \(2021\)](#), the Focal Point mechanism established in resolution [1730 \(2006\)](#) may also receive requests for exemption from the assets freeze and the travel ban, submitted by or on behalf of an individual, group, undertaking or entity on the sanctions list, or by the legal representative or estate of such an individual, group, undertaking or entity, for the Committee's consideration.

27. The Committee received eight requests for exemptions to the assets freeze, determined to be necessary for basic expenses pursuant to paragraphs 84 (a) and 86 (a) of resolution [2610 \(2021\)](#), seven from Member States and one through the Focal Point mechanism. All requests were approved. The Committee received one request from a Member State for an exemption to the assets freeze to cover extraordinary expenses pursuant to paragraphs 84 (b) of resolution [2610 \(2021\)](#), which was approved.

V. Sanctions list

28. 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 to 4 of resolution [2610 \(2021\)](#). 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. Both the Committee and the Ombudsperson can receive delisting requests.

29. During the reporting period, three individuals and one entity were listed. Two individuals were delisted, both following a review by the Ombudsperson. The

Committee approved amendments to the existing list entries and narrative summaries of 157 individuals and 12 entities on its sanctions list.

30. At the end of the reporting period, there were 256 individuals and 89 entities on the sanctions list of the Committee.

VI. Monitoring Team

31. The Monitoring Team comprises 10 experts with broad experience in international counter-terrorism issues. On 16 March, the Secretary-General appointed one individual to serve as an expert on the Monitoring Team to replace an expert who had reached his maximum five-year period of service.

32. On 10 February and 21 July, the Monitoring Team presented, respectively, its thirty-first (S/2023/95) and thirty-second (S/2023/549) reports to the Committee, in accordance with paragraph (a) of annex I to resolution 2610 (2021).

33. In January and July, the Monitoring Team contributed to the sixteenth and seventeenth reports of the Secretary-General on the threat posed by ISIL (Da'esh) to international peace and security and the range of United Nations efforts in support of Member States in countering the threat, submitted pursuant to paragraph 106 of resolution 2610 (2021) (S/2023/76 and S/2023/568, respectively).

34. During the informal consultations held on 10 February, 12 May, 21 July and 9 October, the Monitoring Team gave briefings to the Committee pursuant to paragraph 104 of resolution 2610 (2021), including on information gathered and analysis relevant to potential sanctions designations by Member States or Committee action that could be taken.

35. The Monitoring Team assisted the Committee in conducting the annual review of the sanctions list pursuant to resolution 2610 (2021). On 2 October, the Coordinator of the Team submitted a written briefing on the annual review to the Committee.

36. On 14 December 2022 and 20 June 2023, in accordance with paragraph (e) of annex I to resolution 2610 (2021), the Monitoring Team submitted its combined biannual travel plans for the Committee and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011) for the periods from January to June and July to December 2023. Accordingly, the Team conducted visits to more than 27 Member States and participated in more than 25 regional and international conferences and other meetings, including sanctions workshops, terrorist finance and anti-money-laundering meetings, and regional and international counter-terrorism forums. In addition, the Team organized its twentieth regional forum for security and intelligence services, in Vienna in May.

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

38. In pursuance of its mandate, the Monitoring Team, through the Secretariat, sent 229 letters to Member States, regional and international organizations, national entities and the Committee.

VII. Ombudsperson

39. The Office of the Ombudsperson submitted five comprehensive reports to the Committee and presented six reports to the Committee. The Committee took a decision in six cases, resulting in the delisting of two individuals and the retention of four individuals on the sanctions list. The Ombudsperson sent 47 requests for

information in pending cases to Member States and the Monitoring Team. He communicated with delegates of relevant Member States in New York on nine cases and met with the authorities in their respective capitals to gather information on four individuals. The Ombudsperson travelled to one State to gather information on a specific case. Furthermore, he travelled to two States to interview two petitioners and for the purpose of gathering information on two cases.

40. The Ombudsperson submitted two periodic reports to the Security Council, respectively, on 22 February (S/2023/133) and 12 September (S/2023/662).

VIII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

41. 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 regimes 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 1 to 3 December, the Secretariat conducted the third training session on the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, adjustment and redesign of sanctions for incoming members of the Council.

42. To support the Committee in its recruitment of well-qualified experts to serve on sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels, the Division has begun to brief regional groups and held public outreach events on 21 June and 26 October to attract a more geographically diverse applicant pool. On 13 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 24 October, notifying them of an upcoming vacancy on the Monitoring Team and providing information on recruitment timeline, areas of expertise and pertinent requirements. On 23 October, the vacancy announcement was also made available online at the United Nations career portal (<https://careers.un.org>).

43. The Division continued to provide support to the Monitoring Team, assisting in the preparation of the Team's biannual reports, submitted to the Committee in June and December. The Secretariat facilitated travel by the Team to deliver their mandate, which included meetings with Member States and other stakeholders. The Secretariat organized an inter-panel workshop from 5 to 7 December, which was focused on providing additional tools to enhance expert investigations and reporting and to foster inter-panel cooperation.

44. 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 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, as requested by the Council in paragraph 54 of its resolution 2368 (2017).