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Letter dated 16 June 2021 from the Security Council Facilitator for the implementation of resolution 2231 (2015) addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the eleventh report of the Joint Commission to the Security Council on the status of the Procurement Working Group's decisions and on any implementation issues, which covers the period from 4 December 2020 to 14 June 2021.

I should be grateful if the present letter and the report could be issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Geraldine **Byrne Nason**
Security Council Facilitator for the
implementation of resolution 2231 (2015)

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Report of the Joint Commission to the Security Council on the status of the Procurement Working Group's decisions and on any implementation issues

1. This is the eleventh report of the Joint Commission, established by the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, to the Security Council on the status of the Procurement Working Group's decisions and on any implementation issues. It provides an overview of the work undertaken by the Procurement Working Group from 4 December 2020 to 14 June 2021.

2. The Procurement Working Group comprises the States that are participants in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, with a designated representative of the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy serving as Coordinator. Documents relating to the work of the Procurement Working Group, as endorsed by the Joint Commission and updated in September 2017, are publicly available, including through the Security Council website dedicated to the implementation of resolution 2231 (2015).

3. Since 9 May 2018, the work of the Procurement Working Group has been continuing without the participation of the United States of America, under the principles and procedures established by the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. The participants note with regret the reimposition of sanctions by the United States after its withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. The participants welcome the ongoing discussions in Vienna to positively address a return of the United States to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action and to ensure the full implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action by all sides. They remain committed to upholding the integrity of the procurement channel and fully support the continuation of its functioning as a transparency and confidence-building instrument, which, while enabling the trade of relevant items with the Islamic Republic of Iran, ensures the consistency of relevant transfers with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. The participants call upon States that are not parties to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action to refrain from taking any actions that impede the remaining parties' ability to fully perform their commitments.

4. The participants in the Procurement Working Group will use all available means to secure the conditions necessary for the stable functioning of the procurement channel, which remains one of the key instruments for the full implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action and of resolution 2231 (2015). The importance of the full and effective implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action by all sides was underlined at the ministerial meeting of China, France, Germany, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Islamic Republic of Iran, which was held virtually on 21 December 2020 and chaired by the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

5. Since January 2019, practical measures to ensure the stable functioning of the procurement channel have been put forward and discussed by the Procurement Working Group. On 6 March 2019, the Joint Commission reiterated the readiness of the procurement channel to evaluate proposals for transfers to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and its determination to further support international engagement in that regard.

6. The participants in the Procurement Working Group also continued to engage with Member States to raise awareness of the procurement channel process and to explain the role and objectives of the Procurement Working Group with a view to ensuring the effective operational functioning of the channel. Additional practical measures to enhance the visibility of the procurement channel have been discussed.

7. During the reporting period, the Procurement Working Group held three meetings. Owing to local restrictions related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, temporary postponements were agreed by consensus among the participants in the Procurement Working Group and without prejudice to the functioning of the procurement channel, which remained fully operational. Representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency participated as observers in one of the meetings. The Procurement Working Group reviewed one proposal from one State, which was recommended for approval. Another proposal that was under review during the previous reporting period was also recommended for approval.

8. The participants in the Procurement Working Group remain committed to continuing to review proposals in an impartial and independent manner and in accordance with the procedures and requirements stipulated in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. Confidentiality principles cover the proposals submitted to the Procurement Working Group, including the necessary supporting information and any additional information transmitted.