



France

Committee: Security Council

Subject: Selecting UN Secretary-General

Delegation: Fatemeh Sayad Sijani,

Islamic Azad University, Science and Research Branch, Tehran

- A. The selection of a new United Nations Secretary-General, traditionally decided behind closed-doors, has for the first time in history, involved public discussions with each candidate campaigning for the world's top diplomatic post. For the first time in the UN history, candidates have openly competed to be the next UN Secretary-General and publically outlined their vision for the future of the United Nations. From climate change to pandemic extremism, many of the world's defining problems transcend borders and require global solutions. Accordingly, in an increasingly polarized world facing multiple crises, only the UN can step up to meet the complex challenges and only a highly-qualified and visionary leader with proven leadership and managerial abilities, experience in international relations and diplomacy can help to solve the problems.
- B. France expresses its hope that through the adoption of the Paris Agreement and its early entry into force, the international community shows its commitment and determination to act together to combat climate disruption. The Agreement will enter into force on November 4th, a few days before CoP 22 in Marrakesh. It was a success for the United Nations and for the international community and also it was an extraordinary achievement for the European Union and its ambitious, forward looking action on the fight against climate change. It is now a

matter of urgency to implement what we decided in Paris, which means ratifying it. We, as the members of the United Nations, cannot achieve this goal except under the leadership of a qualified and skillful leader with political and moral authority to lead the UN in these very testing times.

C. Under the new procedure of selecting UN Secretary-General aimed at greater transparency, France would be delighted to cooperate with the next UN Secretary-General in halting an ongoing human crisis in Syria. Aleppo is still under a barrage of fire. As a consequence, we have started our discussions on our draft resolution on Aleppo. We have been negotiating and have made every effort to try and unite the Security Council. This crisis occurs in the moment that the Heads of State and Government have adopted “the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” which leaves no one behind and places a new obligation on all to reach those in situations of conflict, disasters, vulnerability and risk.

D. Expressing grave alarm at the significant and rapid deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Syria and recalling the Security Council resolutions 2042 (2012), 2043 (2012), 2118 (2013), and 2139 (2014), France declares its readiness to cooperate promptly with the UN Secretary-General under the principles of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the continuing refugee crisis. The recent events in the Middle East have produced a marked increase in the number of refugees seeking a sanctuary from war or political oppression. As the UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, declared on his message on the World Refugee Day, last year more than one million refugees and migrants arrived in Europe across Mediterranean that requires collective responsibility to address their plight. Meanwhile, the complexity and consequences of, and also responses to the refugee crisis make this dilemma not amenable to easy solution. All these obstacles make the role of United Nations Organization and particularly the role of UN Secretary-General more outstanding in conducting international community to an appropriate road map that

can manage the influx of refugees. In this regard, France believes next UN Secretary-General must be a man/woman of experience and can deal with key players; both international and regional, who have a hand in specific issues like Syria.

E. Recalling all the previous Security Council resolutions pertaining to terrorism; in particular its resolutions 1267 (1999), 1333 (2000), 1363 (2001), 1373 (2001), 1390 (2002), 1452 (2002), 1455 (2003), 1526 (2004), 1566 (2004), 1617 (2005), 1624 (2005), 1699 (2006), 1730 (2006), 1735 (2006), 1822 (2008), 1904 (2009), 1988 (2011), 1989 (2011), 2082 (2012), 2083 (2012), 2133 (2014), 2160 (2014), and 2255 (2015), France Expresses its concern at the increasing presence and future potential growth of the terrorists of Daesh (ISIL) that represent a threat to civilians and to countries in the region where they are rife, but also to France, its allies and international security in general. Consequently, all the United Nations Member States must reiterate their firm commitment to support the principals of the Charter and cooperate with the UN Secretary-General to fight against Daesh.

F. France also promotes the framing of the use of veto by the five Security Council permanent members in case of mass atrocities. We must make the Security Council action more effective in situations of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide. Thus, France fully supports UN Secretary-General in pursuing the initiative launched two years ago to convince the other permanent members of the Security Council to restrain from using the veto in cases of mass atrocities. France remains deeply convinced that the veto is not a right neither a privilege but a responsibility.

G. Recognizing General Assembly resolution 69/321(2015) and all other previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of the work of General Assembly, France reaffirms the eminent position of the

Secretary-General in ameliorating and enhancing the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly in addressing issues of peace and security in accordance with the principals of the Charter. Therefore, the next UN Secretary-General must be selected and appointed on the basis of transparency, inclusivity, wider membership and gender equality. Through the new procedure of selecting the UN Secretary-General, the Security Council must recommend the right candidate with firm commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter, who has a vast experience in international relations in order to be able to respond to the major challenges according to the international interests. Under a committed Secretary-General, the UN has unique political and institutional capacity to prevent mass atrocity crimes, mediate conflict and promote universal rights.