



Press Conference:

UN Sanction Resolution, the truth and the Resilience of the Eritrean People and Economy

Briefing Note by

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Ladies and Gentlemen

Good morning and I would like to thank you for honouring our invitation to participate in this Press Conference.

I am sure all of you have been following the recent dramas, chains of allegations and developments leading to the UN Security Council discussions to impose additional sanctions on Eritrea. Almost two years after the imposition of the unjust, illegal and unfair UNSC Sanction Resolution, another December has witnessed the historical injustices perpetuated against the people of Eritrea as usual in the name of the UN.

This Press Conference will mainly deal on this issue but will also highlight the resilience, the resolute rebuff of the Eritrean people to the resolution and the prevailing promising economic



prospects in the country. The discussion is also put into the context of a multiple of parameters, namely the influence of geo-political, regional, historical issues and the role of the international system namely the UN so as to create a broader perspective on the central issues.

But about what is this whole dilemma hanging on the fate and future of this young nation. About Somalia. Djibouti, terrorism, or something else ...etc. Thus, eleven issues and perspectives will be discussed to shed light on various issues under the theme “UN Sanction Resolutions, the truth and the Resilience of the Eritrean people and economy”.

1. It is about lifting the illegal sanction and conforming to the reality

As it is well known, the UNSC resolution 1907/2009 was a US instigated ploy which came after all measures and conspiracies to destabilize Eritrea and disintegrate its economy were foiled by the resilience of the Eritrean people. The resolution was outright rejected but Eritrea has, however, complied with the decision as a respect to international law and as a means of exposing the truth and the injustices perpetuated against this young nation.

In the past two years, the facts on the ground have asserted that the sanction resolution has nothing to do with Somalia and Djibouti issues. Indeed it was clear that there existed no reason to maintain the Resolution 1907 now let alone to contemplate on imposing additional sanctions, as Eritrea has complied with the following three aspects of the resolution:

- Has withdrawn its troops from the border with Djibouti and is engaged fully and whole heartedly in the mediation efforts led by Qatar
- As it had never gave any support to Al Shabab or any Somali insurgent group, it has also continued with the same stance and never gave any military, financial and logistical support to all groups including Al Shabab
- In line to the arms embargo imposed, it never procured any arms

No credible and unambiguous evidence has been presented to counter this truth by all the accusers including the Somalia Eritrea Monitoring Group (SEMG). Then, why did all this recklessness to maintain and expand the sanction on Eritrea become a prominent feature?

2. It is about escalation of the open hostilities by the US

Again and again many inside the UNSC and outside of it have been honest to express the truth that the whole adventure has nothing to do with Somalia. Similarly, many have also openly opposed the reckless initiatives for additional sanctions to be imposed on Eritrea. The reality on the ground has also exposed the truth and unequivocally shown that it emanates from the undisguised US hostility on Eritrea. Furthermore, Weakleaks documents released recently have also been consistent with



these facts. In general, the following three drives could be cited on why the US was on the frontline of maintaining and expanding the sanction against Eritrea:-

- To scapegoat Eritrea for its failed policies and interventions
- Bring it under the heel by intimidating the Eritrean people and imposing economic hardships
- Cover the crimes and lawlessness of the regime in Ethiopia

The drives are hence clear and Eritrea has become the victim of all hostilities and conspiracies mainly because of the independent stance it followed as a basis for a viable process of nation building process. Eritrea's independent stance includes the basic principles of owning your own decisions, promote self reliance to avoid dependence on aid and develop national capacity with an enhanced focus on promoting investment (including Foreign Direct Investment). In this respect it is highly important to mention the geo political agendas and vested interests (in particular economic interests) of the US and some of its allies as they have always manipulated the decisions taken on Eritrea and the Horn of Africa. The Prophetic observation by Thomas Kennelly, a friend of Eritrea, who visited the EPLF in the liberated areas few years before Eritrea's independence attests to this fact as reflected in the following quote of his book entitled "Towards Asmara":

"Do you know what the emergency really is? You want to hear about the really big emergency? The emergency is that if you guys [Eritreans] succeed [using your principle of self-reliance], you'll be an embarrassment to Africa. Who wants a setup like yours? There aren't many governments on this continent that do. There aren't many governments in Europe. Coloured folk who can look after themselves? It isn't viable. It upsets the world picture. Don't you know the West has to believe famine's an act of God? If they believe that, they only have to make a donation. But if they believe it's an act of bloody politics, they have to really do something, and that's too, too complicated. So what is the story? The story is you guys will fall on your own f---ing swords, because you've got this crazy idea that the world will allow you to be perfect!"

It is thus very sad to see that the peace, security and development agendas of the Horn of Africa are being taken hostage to the major US geopolitical agendas and interests. The US has vigorously followed these agendas and interests using Ethiopia as its main agent and hence has become an established pattern of behaviour in the last 60 years. US's recent policy of promoting Ethiopia the strategic anchor for US interests in the Horn of Africa with the merits and interests of other people in the region deemed subsidiary to this ascribed role is a concrete evidence of failed approach. While the present complications in the region are mainly the result of the failed US policies, it is to be admitted that addressing the essence of the problems in the region becomes vital for a deeper understanding of the overall situation, the future prospects of peace, security and development in the volatile region and the reckless attempts going on to make Eritrea the prime victim. Thus,

3. It is about diverting attention from Ethiopia's Destabilizing role in the Region



The essence of the problems in the Horn of Africa has always been Ethiopia's ideology of aggression and the politics of hegemony. This has been inherent in all the ruling systems of Ethiopia in the last century. The present regime has also shown that it has not freed itself from the yoke that threatens the human right of the peoples of the region, their peaceful coexistence and the plight of the future generations in all the nations of the region. On recent accounts alone, Ethiopia's invasion on Eritrea in the pretext of the border dispute, continued occupation of sovereign Eritrean territories, defiance to international law, the present policy of a regime change in Eritrea and its invasion as well as its destabilizing presence inside Somalia are reminiscences of a decadent historical phenomenon that require attention to eliminate the threats of peace and security of the region.

The developments in the last decade thus amply demonstrate the challenges to address the demands of a new reality after the emergence of an independent Eritrea. It is to be known that the Algiers international Treaty signed between Eritrea and Ethiopia, the final and binding international ruling of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission, the numerous UNSC resolution on the ruling, the delimitation and demarcation decisions which resolved the Eritrea-Ethiopia border dispute among many others are powerful instruments to modify Ethiopia's behaviour and promote peace, security and development in the region. But still a decade later, Ethiopia has failed to abide by its international obligation, defied international border ruling and still continues to occupy sovereign Eritrean territories with impunity.

For obvious reasons the US has continued to be the culprit in appeasing and defending Ethiopia's defiance and lawlessness. The UN Security Council which also shoulders the responsibility to take punitive measures on the basis of UN Charter and the Algiers Treaty signed between the two countries has itself become hostage to the US pressure. The regime's obsession of overturning the final and binding international ruling through an illegal and impractical dialogue as promised by the US is also long overdue and has by now become a tale of the past. This is precisely why the US and its collaborators have used Somalia and Djibouti as pretexts for victimizing Eritrea and create a diversion from the essence of the problem in the region. It is unacceptable and illegal to notice that Ambassador Susan Rice used the Djibouti border issue as another justification for more sanction while she still ignores Ethiopia's defiance of the international border ruling between Eritrea and Ethiopia and its continued occupation of Eritrean territories. Ambassador Susan' statement reflected in UNSC doc S/PV.6674 Resumption 1 which states that "...Eritrea still has not resolved its border dispute with Djibouti..." as an argument for more sanctions was another irrational stance meant to create diversion from Ethiopia's defiance to the Eritrea Ethiopia border ruling.

4. Thus, It is also about diversion from the essence through fabrication and lies

To maintain the hostilities against Eritrea, allegations through various fabrication and lies have also become a pattern of behaviour. Worst of all, fabricated lies are taken for granted, no investigations made, no evidence presented and when requested the stereotype response is that the intelligence information available cannot be revealed as it will endanger the security of the so called



informants, etc. The most puzzling aspect is that with time and even after proven to be false, nobody takes responsibility for these allegations. Silence and the behaviour at large still continue!

In general, the pattern of behaviour has shown that many of the fabrications are meant to serve as a way of diverting attention from the prevailing problems which still require objective and realistic approaches in the Somalia Crisis. But Diversionary Acts! How? Why? What?

Multiple of examples could be mentioned here but the following could highlight the pattern and partially answer the above questions:-

- The drama of the 2000 special forces from Eritrea with fictions on the deployment numbers and places – used as a prelude to Ethiopia’s invasion into Somalia
- The drama on the misunderstanding with Djibouti – as the Somalia allegation on Eritrea did not have any substance, it was meant to give weight for passing a sanction resolution and the US and Ethiopia played a great role in the manipulation and fabrication of the drama
- The drama on the bombing of the AU Summit – a prelude to launch a draft on additional economic sanctions - for detail of the drama refer Eritrea’s response to the SEMG Report and Weakleaks documents on similar allegations made
- The Star Trek drama alleging that Eritrea landed three cargo planes loaded with arms to Al Shebab – a prelude to Kenya’s offensive in Somalia and add sensational overtones to the contemplated additional sanction on Eritrea

As all fabrications and lies were not enough by themselves to incriminate Eritrea and make the resolution of the Somalia problem elusive, myths were also created to further compound the problems. Thus,

5. It is about creating myths and defy the realities of peace in Somalia

Myths which always negate objective approaches, ignore the realities of the country and divert attention from the essence of the problems in the Somalia crisis, have played a great part in the complication of the situation in Somalia and the region. They are too many to exhaust in these briefing but mentioning the important ones could show how much Eritrea has been used as scapegoat in the whole situation:-

- The tales of a proxy war (between Eritrea and Ethiopia)
- Punishing Eritrea a panacea (or a universal remedy) for peace in Somalia
- No Al Shebab, then no Somalia problema
- Military solution – arming any body who can fire a gun



- Somalia equals terrorism

Eritrea has always challenged these myths and its policy has always been for an objective and comprehensive solution to the crisis. Thus, it is about avoiding external intervention, stopping the protracted reliance on imposing leaders, promoting a national reconciliation process which is all inclusive and driven by the internal Somali dynamics only and no military solution in Somalia. Eritrea still holds its longstanding position that the reconstitution of Somalia as a nation is the central issue for a comprehensive and sustainable resolution of the crisis.

In the last two years, a broader and wider public understanding on the essence of the problem in Somalia has developed and the overall tenet is that failed policies must be rectified. The realization that the generation gap taking shape in Somalia is going to have long term effects not only in Somalia but beyond it in the region and globally is also gaining momentum at this time because the truth is that Somalia is not only a failed state but that it is already a failed nation now divided into many lands. This is the essence of a problem which the US and its allies have to face without making Eritrea a scapegoat.

6. For real, it is not also about Eritrea's alleged support to terrorists

The effort made to put additional sanction on Eritrea also makes baseless allegations on its involvement and collaboration in terrorist activities. On top of being baseless this is an insult as it ridicules the sacrifice made and the frontline role played by the Eritrean people to fight terrorism in the last 20 years. It also lacks objectivity as it emanates from Eritrea's opposition to the faulty and failed US policies pursued in Somalia and else where. Furthermore, the world has now enough of everything where counter terrorism has been misused and misguided for the simple reason of satisfying vested geo political interests and agendas, a common outcry by many peace loving people as well.

It is a well known fact that terrorist groups were created and supported by the US in the 80s is still fresh in the memories of many people around the world and nothing has changed now. In fact, Ethiopia which is considered a major ally in counter-terrorism by the US has embarked on a similar pattern of behaviour. It is not a secret that Ethiopia has been supporting the so called Eritrean Jihad Groups based inside its territory. Furthermore, it has also openly admitted that it has the intention of making regime in Eritrea by supporting these groups and other affiliated renegades. Nevertheless, the outcry in the end was at all costs the sanction must be maintained and additional sanctions should be imposed to achieve the goals of bringing Eritrea under the heel.

7. It is about expanding the Sanction even through a Maximalist Strategy

In the last 6 months political dramas have been going on to impose additional sanctions on Eritrea. Ethiopia was the obvious instrument here and it starts with the dramatic fabrication and allegation of the failed AU bombing in Addis Abeba. The groundwork was laid by the Somalia Eritrea



Monitoring Group Report and as usual it spearheaded its fight against Eritrea not as independent professional body but through political considerations and open hostilities. It is a disgrace to the credibility of the UN system and its agencies that the Group used as evidence the information submitted by the Ethiopian Government, because no independent verification was made. The narration in its report, exposed its biases, that it is a party to the problem and ascertained its ill-intent on Eritrea (*Refer Eritrea's response to the Somalia Eritrea Monitoring Report for details*)

Ethiopia drafted the resolution which was again manipulated in IGAD under the chairmanship of Ethiopia. Sudan did not accept the joint communiqué. Nevertheless Ethiopia wanted the AU Summit of July 2011 in Malabo to request additional sanction on Eritrea but the Summit instead passed a resolution that puts focus on finalizing the unfinished problem between Eritrea and Ethiopia as the essence of the problem. It was at this time that Ethiopia decided to go to the UNSC directly and use the African countries in the SC in which Gabon and Nigeria commissioned the draft but their deeds does not represent African position.

The draft was, however, met with stiff resistance by many countries due to its unbalanced and unfair posture. It took time and many different avenues were used to reach at a compromising draft to no avail and it was at this time that the US exposed itself as the lead in coming with a final draft that was presented hastily for voting. There was another drama again here when the US obstructed President Isaias's address to the UNSC contravening Eritrea's legitimate right as it is a country considered an agenda in the Security Council. This was the final political game in which the vote was rushed so as to avoid Eritrea's voice and truth being heard again in the UNSC.

There are many people who ask why Gabon was chosen for this mission? Time will tell but in a nutshell, it is a 21st Century mission by barter! It is a great disrespect to the people of Gabon, the AU and above all to the peace loving African people and countries to sacrifice Eritrea for the sake of the re-election of the Gabonese AU Commission candidate. There are reports which indicate that this was Ethiopia's promise to Gabon. The demands made by Gabon in the draft to ban investment in Eritrea's key mining industry and stop a government tax and remittances sent back by Eritrean workers abroad were, however, resisted by many in the UNSC and finally dropped. But again time will also tell the whole drama of arms twisting in the Security Council and the ill intentions of Gabon and Nigeria's involvement in general. But yet again it must be noted that it does not represent Africa's position.

On the other hand the statements made by some countries when the sanction resolution was put on vote are clear indications of the whole situation. Among many other things the Russian Ambassador Mr Churkin's important revelations on the following are very sounding in many ways:

"..the text of the resolution contains a range of provisions that lack adequate foundation, and the role of the group of experts has been expanded beyond measure."



..”However, in this case, the Security Council was not presented with convincing proof of Eritrea’s involvement in that incident.” (Meaning alleged AU bombing attempt)

“In general, we are concerned by a trend in the recent work of the council of including ambiguous language in the texts of the draft resolution....”

The South African Ambassador Mr Mashabane has also raised various points in his statement including the following in different parts:

“We call on the Monitoring Group to execute its responsibilities and mandate emanating from Resolution 1907 and from this resolution with professionalism, impartiality, and objectivity. ... should never be influenced by political considerations outside of its mandate. ... Equally, we call upon the members of the Security Council to desist from any temptation to use the Monitoring Group for political ends.”

The above simple revelations and the Eritrean case at the UN in different times and in various ways are symbolic as a case to raise the outstanding issue of the role and effectiveness of the UN, the Security Council and its agencies.

8. It is about the prevailing ill-intent and acts under the guise of the UN

Added Sanctions on Eritrea therefore was about using the UN as a tool for subduing the Eritrean people and obstructing the Eritrean economy and its growth. The US did everything it can to rush the resolution and its deeds as usual have reflected the politics of power and status in the UNSC. This again raises the urgent need of reforming the UN and its structures because of the following reasons:-

- It is dominated by the US: even when the issue of economic sanctions and banning mining investment into Eritrea has been dropped from the resolution, the US by the open admission of Ambassador Susan Rice is still kin to develop a voluntary guideline which can threaten companies working in Eritrea
- A naked and shameless effort to convert the UNSC sessions into a Kangaroo court the latest example being when Ethiopia and some countries of the region who are the party to the problem, presented themselves as the accusers and the witnesses at the same time. This even took place by obstructing the participation of Eritrea as the accused always targeted by the self proclaimed judge, accuser and witness (the US)
- The UNSC has failed to shoulder its responsibility to enforce its resolutions and compel Ethiopia to abide by international law



Eritrea position on the need for reform in the UN is well recorded. The President of the State of Eritrea HE Isaias Afwerki reiterated this position when he addressed the 66th General Assembly on 23 September 2011 in which he stated:-

“.....As we ponder the future and take stock of the sweeping changes that are underway, we cannot fail but underscore that the United Nations has already become hopelessly outdated and risks becoming totally irrelevant. We all profess agreement on the need to transform the institutions and procedures of the United Nations but we remain paralyzed, with no prospects for early progress. Eritrea firmly associates itself with those who stress the urgency of real reform and believes that what is required is not a mere tweaking of the system but a comprehensive transformation of the institution. The critical element of this transformation has to be the strengthening of the authority and role of the General Assembly. As long as this paramount body is deprived of real decision-making powers the United Nations will remain unrepresentative of the nations of the world, even if the size and composition of the Security Council changes significantly. Similarly, there can be no meaningful revitalization without overhauling the methods of work and procedures of the United Nations, respecting the rights of member states and ensuring transparency and accountability in all bodies of the organization.”.....

The whole intention as has been mentioned again and again in this briefing is crystal clear. US's failed attempts to strangle the Eritrean economy have now appeared under the guise of the UN and with a Somalia Branding but again failed. Thus, to complete the picture, highlighting the realities of the Eritrean economy in relation to the myths becomes necessary here.

9. The usual myths and the Realities of the Eritrean Economy

As a new nation that inherited a devastated economy and a social fabrics destabilized by war, Eritrea's reconstruction and national building process had to start from the scratch and enormous challenges were faced in the last 20 years. Despite this reality, the lack of capacity in the various sectors and more importantly the hostilities, Eritrea's economic growth and development orientation have been exemplary. As a matter of fact the Eritrean economy has shown resilience in the face of all difficulties.

One of the greatest problems was the effort that has been going on to tarnish the real image of Eritrea through deliberate blackmail campaigns that involved all the ideological institutions of the hostile nations including the Ethiopian regime. Every attempt was made to make the world believe that there is a failed economy in Eritrea and that it will collapse in a free fall motion. Concerted effort was made by several think tanks and media outlets to portrait this image and three examples in particular are noteworthy here to show the overall futile attempts:-

- Chatham House conducted a discussion and compiled a report in 2008 on the “The Collapse of the Eritrean Economy”



- International Crisis Group (ICG) issued a report on September 2010 under the title Eritrea: A siege State - Africa Report N°163 – 21 September 2010 wrongly showing Eritrea as a failed state with a shattered economy
- “Dreams Don’t Come True in Eritrea”: Anomie and Family Disintegration due to the Structural Militarization of Society, by Nicole Hirt, No 119 January 2010

But what is the real economic development and situation in Eritrea? Despite the hostilities and challenges tremendous effort has been made to revitalize the economy affected by the border war and the recurrent cycle of drought which started in the middle of the border war and continued until 2004. The biggest effort has been to raise agricultural productivity, expand economic infrastructure and develop human capital. Significant investment has also been made to improve the living condition of the population and significant achievement has been gained. Strategic manufacturing in key targeted and comparative advantage areas has also started to emerge. Though not significant and aggressive in its bearing, modest attempts at expanding the tourism and fishery sector have also taken place.

In general, the combined effort has helped in establishing the foundations of macro economic stability in the country but much is needed to achieve the goals set in the Macro Policy and the National Development Goals. The two important aspects of social justice with much importance in contributing to the goals of revitalizing the economy of the country are the effort made to promote equal and balanced opportunities of growth in the different regions of the country and the attempts made to diversify economic development. Many have described Eritrea’s growth and the development model as exemplary and the following could be taken as examples of a well represented thought on Eritrea’s economic model and growth:-

- Africa Review SAMANTHA SPOONER:: What the Horn of Africa could learn from Eritrea
- Food and Hunger in the Horn of Africa An Island in the Famine By Thomas C. Mountain
- We should learn more from different development models 3 August 2011 Gordon Peters, WDM Edinburgh group
- Rana's List - An Economic Lesson We Can Learn from Eritrea - By: Mark D. Juszcak

It is not a surprise to see that in 2011 many financial institutions described Eritrea as one of the countries with the fastest economic growth in the next 3 – 5 years. While it is true that Eritrea has made significant growth in the last few years, the fact that many of the reports tried to associate the growth to the forthcoming mining sector boom in Eritrea. This is unacceptable as well as irrational as it undermines the diversified effort and the achievements gained herewith in the last 10 years in particular. The analysis of many financial institutions has therefore gone wrong in trying to create a myth about a growth based on natural resources. Admittedly, the mining sector will have a role in the economic growth of Eritrea, but it is being fostered as an area to be managed properly in line to the interest of the future generations and integrated into the national economy.



It is therefore not difficult to see why all hostile elements rushed to sanction the promising economic growth in general and the mining boom in particular and it was clear to them that the nation that showed resilience and made progress with bare resources and without any aid or support is poised to make miracles in a very short time. Again, it is not about Somalia or Djibouti or the other fabrications but rather about breaking the resilience of the Eritrean people and the Eritrean economy. Even the present famine in the Horn of Africa was used for propaganda purposes to tarnish the image of Eritrea.

9. It is not about Famine in Eritrea but the Politicization of Food Aid

With a famine situation that threatened the lives of millions in the Horn of Africa, again wrongly Eritrea became the main target. In the last 10 years food security was considered as a priority of priorities and major investment was made to structurally transform the agricultural sector and raise productivity. Food security has become a major pillar of the social sector strategy in a bid to eliminate poverty within a short time in Eritrea. To the dismay of many who wanted to include it in the list of famine countries, there was no famine in Eritrea. Eritrea had a bumper harvest in 2010 which has also been repeated this year.

There is no complacency here and food security is not about food self sufficiency for two or three years as it involves major investments in strategic areas to make it sustainable. But Eritrea has demonstrated that it can be done and that a society that feed its people can build a viable nation. This is why the Government has been making expanded preparation to redouble the effort next year but additional sanction was sought to use it as a way of justifying intervention under the guise of humanitarian missions and the politicization of food aid. These myths are long overdue in Eritrea and there can never been such a gratifying success as what has been achieved in a short time towards food self sufficiency (*Refer Embassy Press Release of September 2011*).

The briefing has finally shown that it is human factor – the Eritrean people, which is decisive in the history of Eritrea. Thus additional sanctions on Eritrea was finally about one important issue!

10. It is about the futile attempt of subduing the Resilience of the Eritrean people

The above briefing could be concluded with an interesting and central issue. The resilience and decisive role of the Eritrean people is a characteristic future of the nation building process as it had been during the long years of the National Liberation Struggle. This is based on the concrete reality and objective thinking that encompasses the three major pillars of the political philosophy namely, people as a basis, participation (responsible) and power of the people. Eritrea's peace and stability as well as its exemplary achievements against all odds are based on such the thinking and practice developed during the National Liberation Struggle for independence.

Eritrea has always relied on the strategy of extended mobilization, higher organization and creation of national capacity both inside and outside the country. This has ascertained the sound



participation of its citizens in the Diaspora and their contribution in national Development and promotion of national interest has been significant. They are in the first place accorded equal right and opportunity in their home country which serves as comparative advantage in the Diaspora. They thus fulfil the basic obligations to their country and participate in various ways in the different development programmes. The remittances they send to their families contribute significantly not only to their families but to the economy of the country. They also maintain a close and strong link and connection with their culture, language and identity.

It is this type of healthy relationship and development contribution that Ethiopia's draft resolution commissioned through Gabon tried to target and became one of the most debatable issues in the UNSC. Why target the contribution of the Eritrean Diaspora when various other Diaspora communities are encouraged to do so? Is not this one of the major agendas of the AU to be discussed in a summit on African Diaspora and their role in development to take place some time soon in South Africa? The reasons are clear and could simply be related to the dream of intimidating the Eritrean people, destabilizing the social fabrics and dismantle the economy.

Ladies and gentlemen

Such is the modern history of this nation in the last 6 decades. The struggle to emancipate ourselves has always been subjected to major patterns of behaviour manifested in the desire to subdue us, destabilize the society and obstruct our independent stance and development. The US using its ally Ethiopia has always been at the helm of such adventures. But resilience has been our major culture rooted in the desire to build a strong nation that gets its right place in the international community. The Sanction resolutions are the last resort measures raised to destroy this culture and desire. It has nothing to do with Somalia, Djibouti or the allegation of bombing the AU Summit.

It is about targeting the independent stance we have and our resilience! We have prevailed and we will prevail! It is in this spirit that we call upon all our friends, peace-loving peoples and nations around the world to denounce the UNSC action and fight to reverse these unjust and extremely reckless resolutions, i.e. 1907(2009) and 2023 (2011). We will remain in touch and will see you in a similar Press Briefing some time soon.

Thank you again and I now open the floor for questions and discussions.