

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya United Nations Security Council 2021-2022

STATEMENT AS DELIVERED BY AMB. MICHAEL KIBOINO, DURING THE BRIEFING ON "LETTER RUSSIAN FEDERATION PR (S/2014/264)"

THURSDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY 2021 (10:00 AM)

Madam President,

- Kenya thanks the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) Rosemary DiCarlo; H.E. Heidi Grau, Special Representative of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Chairperson-in-Office; and H.E. Halit Cevik, OSCE Special Monitoring Mission Chief Monitor for their briefings.
- 2. We welcome encouraging developments particularly the January advisers to the heads of States meeting of Normandy format which held discussions concerning implementation of the Minsk accords, the consensus reached at the group leaders' summit in Paris in December 2019 as well as the release of conflict related detainees. The full implementation of commitments under the Minsk Agreements, including the package of measures agreed under Minsk II, remain critical towards a sustainable resolution of the situation.
- 3. Kenya commends the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) for its efforts in Ukraine especially in the execution of its mandate in monitoring the implementation of the 2015 Minsk agreements that were endorsed by this Council in Resolution 2202 (2015).
- 4. Kenya notes with concern the humanitarian situation in the conflict-affected areas as the hardship resulting from the protracted conflict has been compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic including related response measures such as the closure of crossing points that has lasted several months. We call for the urgent deescalation of tensions and relaxation of the COVID related restrictions to create a conducive environment for the delivery of humanitarian assistance to those most

in need including elderly citizens, women, children and persons living with disability.

- 5. In the same breath, we urge all relevant actors to facilitate safe, timely and unimpeded humanitarian access to all people in need of assistance in accordance with humanitarian principles, and to allow international actors to fulfil their mandates effectively.
- 6. In conclusion, we encourage all the parties to strength and direct all diplomatic efforts towards an inclusive, sustainable and peaceful solution based on cooperation and dialogue within the Normandy Format. This remains the most promising path to long-term peace and stability.

I thank you.