

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
23 December 2015

Original: English

**Letter dated 23 December 2015 from the Permanent Representative
of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the
United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to transmit to you the attached letter (see annex). I would be most grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Matthew Rycroft



Annex to the letter dated 23 December 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

22 December 2015

We have previously informed the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) of the outcomes of our meeting in Malta on 15 December 2015. We made it clear that we were working in the context of the Libyan dialogue under United Nations auspices, and that we were endeavouring to expand the scope of consensus regarding the Libyan agreement in order to ensure its implementation and lay the foundations of peace and security with the support of all parties. In particular, we focused on the national consensus government, which should reflect the will and agreement of the Libyan people in order to gain full support. We impressed on UNSMIL the need for arrangements that would give a chance to the important agreement that we had reached in Malta. However, UNSMIL went ahead with the signing ceremony in Skhirat.

What Libya needs is a comprehensive national consensus. You will be aware that ignoring the views of the House of Representatives and the General National Congress would fundamentally undermine the very meaning of consensus and its outcomes. Moreover, the violent demonstrations that broke out in Tripoli and numerous other Libyan towns have underscored the lack of consensus regarding the presidential council. The latter is not the product of a Libyan consensus. Rather, it stems from the personal interpretation of the outgoing United Nations envoy, Bernardino León.

A government grounded in a genuine, broad-based national consensus would be in a position to confront the crisis facing Libya. A government bereft of such consensus — as is the case of the government announced by UNSMIL — would create serious complications for the situation in Libya.

(Signed) **Aguila Saleh Gouider**
President of the House of Representatives

(Signed) **Nouri Ali Abu-Sahmain**
President of the General National Congress