

## Intervention during the sanctions briefing in the Charter Committee

- On behalf of the European Union and its Member States, I would like to thank the briefer, Ms. Ebata, for her insightful presentation. The Candidate Countries North Macedonia\*, Montenegro\*, Serbia\*, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, and Bosnia and Herzegovina\* align themselves with this intervention.
- The EU and its Member States pay particular attention to strengthening and streamlining due process rights in the implementation of UN sanctions. Respect for human rights and due process guarantees are essential to the credibility and effectiveness of sanctions.
- We firmly believe that due process rights ensure the fair treatment of individuals or entities who seek to be removed from sanctions lists. We see the need to have an adequate, independent and impartial system of review and due process in all sanctions regimes. The EU and its Member States continue to look for improvements to due process and human rights safeguards across UN sanctions. As you know, currently there are two avenues for delisting: (i) the focal point for delisting, and (ii) the Office of the Ombudsperson, whose mandate covers only the 1267 ISIL (Da'esh) and Al Qaida regime.
- The Ombudsperson provides an independent external review of delisting petitions. It is the only Office with that authority. Although it was ultimately not retained, it was positive that the Security Council expressed its intent to consider authorising the Ombudsperson to receive delisting requests in the Haiti sanctions regime established by Resolution 2653.
- In this context, we were wondering **how the independence, role and function of the Ombudsperson could be further enhanced with a view to its mandate renewal this coming June?**

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\* North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

- We also note that in December 2022, the UNSC adopted resolution 2664 providing for a humanitarian carve out to asset freeze. That was a watershed moment for the Security Council. We are pleased to inform the membership that the EU has fully transposed that resolution.
- The carve-out applies also to all UN sanctions regimes, but its applicability to the 1267 regime is to be reviewed in December this year. At a time when humanitarian needs are skyrocketing, Resolution 2664 is key in supporting the delivery of humanitarian assistance for those in need while still advancing the Security Council's mandate to maintain international peace and security.
- We note the Secretary General's report last September on the implementation of resolution 2664, and are interested in any further comments that you might be able to make on **how Resolution 2664 is being implemented, its effectiveness and benefits on the ground.**