

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
3 June 2025

Original: English

Letter dated 29 May 2025 from the representatives of Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

We, the 11 Member States participating in the Multilateral Sanctions Monitoring Team, a mechanism established to monitor and report violations and evasions of the United Nations sanctions on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, have the honour to write to you upon instructions from our respective Governments.

The Multilateral Sanctions Monitoring Team was established in October 2024 to fill the gap left by the disbandment of the Panel of Experts established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1874 (2009). While the Multilateral Sanctions Monitoring Team does not replace the Panel, it intends to assist the full implementation by Member States of relevant Security Council resolutions.

We are pleased to inform you that the Multilateral Sanctions Monitoring Team published its first report on 29 May 2025. The report, which focuses primarily on the unlawful military cooperation including arms transfers between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, consolidates information provided by the Multilateral Sanctions Monitoring Team participating States on violations and evasions of sanction measures stipulated in relevant Security Council resolutions. The report is available on the official Multilateral Sanctions Monitoring Team website (<https://msmt.info>).

We are also pleased to transmit herewith the first report for your kind attention (see annex).^{*} The executive summary and key takeaways of the report are as follows:

- A. The rapid expansion of military, political and economic cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (or North Korea) and the Russian Federation in 2024 following the start of Russia's war against Ukraine has resulted in ongoing flagrant violations of relevant Security Council resolutions by both North Korea and Russia.
- B. Evidence gathered and shared by the Multilateral Sanctions Monitoring Team participating States demonstrates that throughout 2024 North Korea and Russia engaged in a myriad of unlawful activities explicitly prohibited under relevant Security Council resolutions, including but not limited to:

^{*} Circulated in the language of submission only.



- Transfers of arms and related materiel via sea, air and rail including shipments of artillery, ballistic missiles and combat vehicles from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Russia for use in Russia's war against Ukraine and air defence systems from Russia to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
 - Training by Russian forces of North Korean troops deployed to Russia for direct support of Russia's war against Ukraine
 - Supply of refined petroleum products to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that far exceed the yearly Security Council-mandated cap
 - Maintaining correspondent banking relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- C. According to Multilateral Sanctions Monitoring Team participating States, these forms of unlawful cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Russia contributed to Moscow's ability to increase its missile attacks against Ukrainian cities, including targeted strikes against critical civilian infrastructure. It also provided the resources to allow North Korea to fund its military programmes and further develop its ballistic missiles programmes, which are themselves prohibited under multiple Security Council resolutions, and gain first-hand experience in modern warfare, in return for its military support to Russia against Ukraine in which over 11,000 North Korean troops have been deployed to Russia since October 2024.
- D. The signing of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea-Russia Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, frequent high-level exchanges between the two since 2024, the deployment by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of additional troops to Russia in early 2025 and the official confirmation of North Korean military support to Russia by both Governments in April 2025 suggest that, at least for the foreseeable future, North Korea and Russia intend to continue and further deepen their military cooperation in contravention of relevant Security Council resolutions.

We would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and circulated as a document of the Council. We also encourage the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1718 \(2006\)](#) to consider the information provided in the report regarding ongoing violations of relevant Security Council resolutions.

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(Signed) Bob **Rae**
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