

SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE PURSUANT
TO RESOLUTIONS 1267 (1999) AND 1989 (2011)
CONCERNING AL-QAIDA AND ASSOCIATED

Qaida and its affiliates a more global reach in a number of theatres of operation. This strategy has been employed with particular rigour in the Syrian context. The Monitoring Team's 15th report raises the specific issue of large numbers of Al-Qaida affiliated foreign fighters affiliating with the organisation Jabhat-al-Nusrah. As thousands of foreign fighters engage in conflict alongside local militants, ties are established that the Monitoring Team predicts could lead to new pan-Arab and pan-European networks of extremists. Furthermore, the return of these battle hardened foreign fighters to their countries of origin – or to third countries - with new ideas and skills is a cause for concern. Member states in North Africa, the Middle-East and Europe are already grappling with the reality of returning fighters with experience of working with Al-Qaida affiliates. For these reasons, the Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee will continue to maintain a global approach to the threat.

5. Generationally, Al-Qaida is getting younger – with leaders increasingly shaped by the experience of current social dynamics rather than the experiences of the 1990s. This trend is examined in the Monitoring Team's 15th Report, which notes that leadership positions within Al-Qaida are being taken up by men in their late 30s and 40s. With this generational shift comes new philosophical perspectives and outreach techniques. For instance, among the new generation of Boko Haram militants in northern Nigeria, a younger perspective has resulted in increased propensity for violence and less tolerance for local religious leadership. With Al-Qaida affiliates in Africa and Asia, mid-level commanders bring technological knowledge and a focus on innovative attack planning. Younger leaders are also more adept at connecting with the next generation of recruits, in particular through the sophisticated use of social media. While organisationally Al-Qaida is more splintered, the shift towards diverse and localised recruitment also means that it is more durable than before. This trend is further amplified by the scope for domestic radicalisation in a number of member states, where violent Al-Qaida inspired cells may generate largely autonomously, influenced by internet propaganda but disconnected from Al-Qaida affiliate command structures.

II. Enhancing the effectiveness of the Al-Qaida Sanctions regime

6. The Committee remains dedicated to ensuring that the Al-Qaida sanctions regime is as effective as possible. The threat posed by Al-Qaida and its affiliates is characterised by the fluidity of its organisational structure and geographical reach. Maintaining a sanctions list that most effectively responds to the threat means identifying potential targets and promptly adding these names to the sanctions list. Conversely, it also means removing names from the sanctions list of individuals and entities that are no longer affiliated with Al-Qaida. To do this in a global context, the Committee relies upon the engagement of all Member States. I would like to take this opportunity to underscore that any Member State may at any time propose a name for listing or de-listing under the Al-Qaida sanctions regime, and I encourage all Member States to consider doing so.

7. On 22 May the Coordinator of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team

all Member States to respond to the changing threat in the names that are proposed for listing and de-listing.

8. An important focus for the Committee is improving implementation of the sanctions measures. In its 15th report, the Monitoring Team highlighted the implementation value for the travel ban of publishing biometric data on listed individuals. The Committee is now seeking to collect this data from Member States, both for existing entries on the list, as well as when new names are proposed for listing. Similarly, the Committee has initiated a Council

always, the Committee and the Monitoring Team stand ready to support Member States in this crucial endeavour.