With this briefing, we intend to inform Member States about the scope of the sanctions regime, the mandate and activities of the Committee, and the main findings and recommendations of the Panel of Expert's most recent (2021) final report.

As Chair of the 1718 Committee, I wish to touch upon three points in my opening remarks:

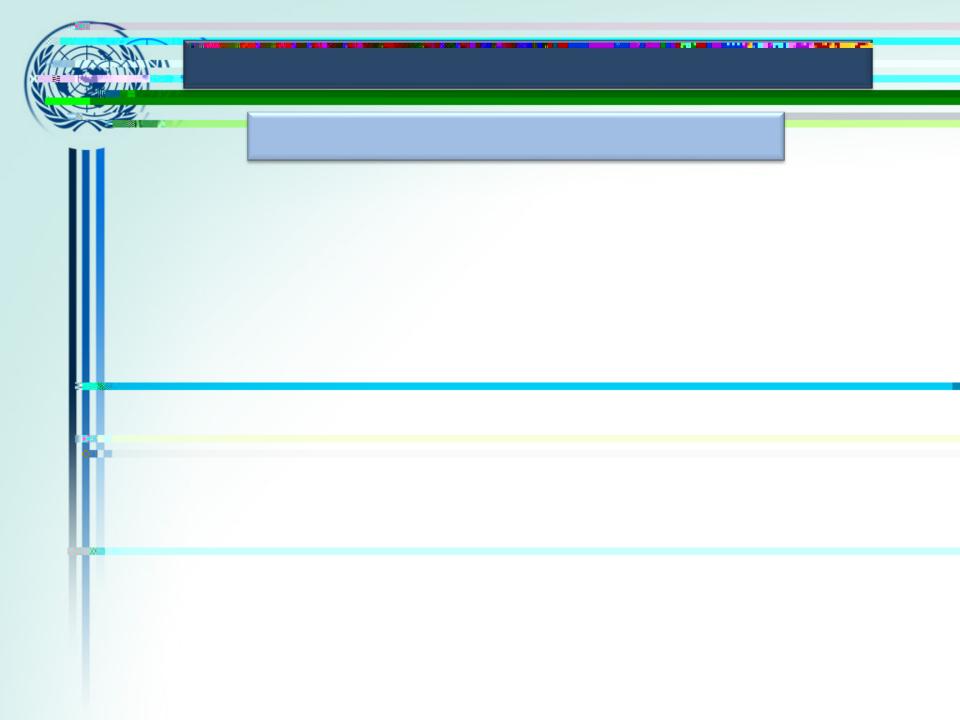
- 1. Member States' obligations to submit national implementation reports,
- 2. The need for effective implementation of the sanctions measures, and
- 3. The Committee's efforts in facilitating the work of humanitarian organizations in the DPRK, in particular through its humanitarian exemption mechanism.

organizations and NGOs on how to proceed when implementing sanctions. Requests for guidance can be submitted to the Committee Chair and the Secretariat, after which it will be brought to the attention of the Committee.

Finally, it is my intention to convene further dedicated outreach meetings later this year, provided that circumstances allow,

exemptions requests. These updates include, inter alia, extending the standard duration for exemptions from six to nine months, allowing for greater flexibility in the shipment consolidation process, providing additional guidance on the requirements and format through which humanitarian exemption requests can be submitted to the Committee for approval, including two optional application templates published on the website, and the introduction of a best practices process for applicants of humanitarian exemption requests. In addition, the Committee extended its practice of expedited approval procedures to include extension and amendment requests, as well as urgent requests for onset emergencies such as pandemic outbreaks and natural disasters.

In view of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee continues to work under an accelerated exemption process for COVID-19 related humanitarian assistance. It continues to use an expedited decision-making procedure of two working days to approve exemptions from I-0 Tw 9.88





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