

Readout of PM call with the First Minister for Wales: 30 July 2019

The Prime Minister met the First Minister for Wales Mark Drakeford in Cardiff today. They spoke about the importance of the Union of the four nations of the UK and support for farmers in Wales.

The PM set out how the UK will be leaving the EU on October 31st, come what may, and said he would seek to work with the Welsh Government and other Devolved Administrations, to make sure communities across the UK are ready to maximise on the opportunities that Brexit will bring.

The importance of effective transitions

Thank you, Mr President, and thank you to our briefers today.

Mr President, we know that transitions are crucial for countries emerging from crisis and which at that time risk return to conflict and the loss of political, developmental and social and economic gains. We need to get those transitions right as a top priority, in particular as we see missions draw down in this Council.

Let me start by saying that we know that for peace to endure, it must be locally embedded. It must be based on national commitment to meeting people's needs and overcoming their grievances, aligning mandate implementation with nationally owned peacebuilding and development objectives from the earliest possible point is therefore vital in nurturing and enabling an environment for effective transition.

Let me secondly say about the importance of integrated UN approaches, when this Council decides to deploy a UN peacekeeping operation, it does so in order to create space for national actors, to restore security and stability through a political process and/or to protect civilians. And whilst peacekeeping operations can contribute to peace building, they cannot in and of themselves achieve political settlement, resolve the root causes of conflicts, or help national authorities to develop their own capacity. So we need a holistic approach and cross-pillar work in the field from the start to address these issues which bring in humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors. In that regard, we urge the Secretariat and UN leaders in the field to ensure the Secretary-General's March 2019 planning directive is fully implemented.

Thirdly, Mr President, let me talk about the importance of partnership for effective transitions. Now, of course, the most important partners will always be national stakeholders, particularly governments, civil society and grassroots organisations working to build peace. And we should deepen those partnerships on the ground. But I'd also like to underline the importance of coordination and cooperation with bilateral donors and with regional and subregional organisations. In that context, I welcome the words from Mr. Yero Baldeh from the African Development Bank today. I'd like to acknowledge, as others have, the important role of the Peacebuilding Commission in support of transitions. It was very good to see Foreign Minister Holmes here. Many of us saw him quite recently, of course. And during the transition in Liberia, the Peacebuilding Commission demonstrated the value of its convening power, bringing together the World Bank, UNOWAS, ECOWAS, and the Country Team to develop a plan and division of labour to support the Liberian government. I was also very pleased to hear from Franck Bousquet today, the partnership between the United Nations and the World Bank is a particular priority for the United Kingdom. The fragility, conflict and violence strategy is an important basis for the bank to focus its efforts in fragile contexts, including by better partnering with the United Nations to devise strategies of tackling the root causes of conflict.

Now, Mr President, let me say a brief word, if I may, about the anticipated transition in Darfur. Let me start by welcoming the political agreement reached by the Transitional Military Council and Forces of Freedom and Change yesterday in Sudan, which sets out a plan for transition to a civilian-led government. This is an important step towards fulfilling the legitimate demands of the Sudanese people. The United Kingdom will support the efforts of all sides to reach agreement on outstanding issues. We will continue to support the transition from peacekeeping and remain hopeful the international community will have a willing and legitimate national partner for peacebuilding.

Given the level of need in Darfur, it's clear that continued international support will be necessary once UNAMID withdraws. And we therefore look forward to receiving options for a follow-up mechanism, as requested in this Council's Resolution 2479.

Mr. President, after years of economic mismanagement in Sudan, there is clearly a need for a wider approach to the situation in Sudan.

Let me conclude by suggesting a few concrete ideas for consideration in taking this issue forward. Firstly, regular reports from the Secretary-General could focus more on the risks to successful transitions and set out how the United Nations is working to align mandate implementation with national peacebuilding priorities. The Secretary-General and the Secretariat could also include in those reports examples of how UN missions are working to align mandate implementation with national peacebuilding priorities through the various UN integrated strategic frameworks. This Council could review at working level its use of benchmarks in order to take stock of what works and what does not, with a view to getting this practice even better in future.

At the UN, the Security Council and the broader international community should consider how to make better use of data on overall financing to improve our understanding of the so-called financial cliff associated with transitions. And we in this Council should be asking those questions during our considerations as missions start their drawdown. The Peacebuilding Commission should consider providing short, one-page submissions to the Council on peacebuilding priorities and challenges when this Council is discussing countries which the Peacebuilding Commission has a focus on.

And finally, the Secretariat should consider how to engage the World Bank in strategic assessment and planning exercises.

Thank you, President.

[Travel tips and advice if you're heading to a music festival in Portugal](#)

As well as this advice, [check out our travel advice for Portugal](#).

Every summer, Portugal hosts a number of different festivals. The vast majority of British tourists don't have any problems at these events, but it's best to be aware of a few things before you go.

Before you go

- remember your [European Health Insurance Card \(EHIC\)](#), but also [take out travel insurance](#). It could save you a lot of money if you get into difficulties. Make sure you carry the emergency contact number and policy number with you and leave a copy of your policy with someone at home
- take 2 photocopies of your passport. Leave one at home and take the other with you
- tell family or friends where you'll be staying
- fill in the last page of your passport with your emergency contacts
- follow [Brits In Portugal Facebook page](#)

At the festival

- keep your valuables locked in a safe place (such as a hotel safe or locker on the festival site) and carry as few valuables as possible
- carry a photocopy of your passport around with you
- keep some spare cash separate from the rest
- keep your cash and mobile in a zipped pocket
- avoid walking home on your own; taxis are readily available in Portimão.

Take care on public transport and don't be distracted

If you need help

[Security summit ends with pledges to tackle emerging threats](#)

Tech companies should prioritise the protection of their users and the wider public when designing services, the UK and international security partners have warned.

Senior ministers from the UK, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States have reaffirmed their commitment to work together with industry to tackle a range of security threats including the sexual abuse and exploitation of children online.

The commitment follows a two-day summit, known as the Five Country Ministerial, where Home Affairs, Interior Security and Immigration Ministers of the Five Eyes countries discussed current and emerging threats which could undermine national and global security. This important partnership and these issues will remain a focus for the UK now and after Brexit.

During a roundtable with tech firms, ministers stressed that law enforcement agencies' efforts to investigate and prosecute the most serious crimes would be hampered if the industry carries out plans to implement end-to-end encryption, without the necessary safeguards.

They added that encrypted services could mask the full scale of harms on the internet and put vulnerable users at risk.

Home Secretary Priti Patel said:

The Five Eyes are united that tech firms should not develop their systems and services, including end-to-end encryption, in ways that empower criminals or put vulnerable people at risk.

We heard today about the devastating and lifelong impact of child sexual exploitation and abuse and agreed firm commitments to collaborate to get ahead of the threat.

As Governments, protecting our citizens is our top priority, which is why through the unique and binding partnership of Five Eyes we will tackle these emerging threats together.

Also speaking at the conclusion of the two-day conference United States

Attorney General William P. Barr said:

The Five Eyes partnership is vital. Throughout this week, we have had substantive, frank and positive discussions surrounding our shared duty to protect public safety, including those related to the internet.

Encryption presents a unique challenge. We must ensure that we do not stand by as advances in technology create spaces where criminal activity of the most heinous kind can go undetected and unpunished.

Indeed, making our virtual world more secure should not come at the expense of making us more vulnerable in the real world. We are grateful for the leadership of Home Secretary Patel in facilitating these critical discussions and shared commitment to safety for all.

Industry agreed to collaborate with the Five Eyes governments on a set of voluntary principles, to be drawn up by the end of the September, on steps they will take to combat child sexual exploitation and abuse, including the growing threat of livestreaming.

The theme of this year's meeting was 'emerging threats', with ministers also turning their attention to common risks posed by new technologies, including connected devices, terrorist use of the internet and foreign terrorist fighters.

Joint communiques have been published following the [Five Country Ministerial meetings](#) and [Quintet meetings](#) summarising the discussions and conclusions.

The following commitments were agreed by Ministers present:

- to continue to develop and share learning on cyber threats to improve the collective response
- the importance that supply chains in the 5G network should be trusted and reliable to protect it from unauthorised access or interference
- to create a stronger approach to the misuse of drones, with the UK hosting an event next year to enhance cooperation
- to explore enhancing cross border information sharing
- to maintain efforts to combat foreign interference in elections, the economy and academia

The Quintet of Attorneys General from the Five Eyes countries also joined the Five Country Ministerial for meetings on online harms, encryption and foreign terrorist fighters.

Tomorrow, Attorneys General from the UK, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand will meet for the Quintet and will discuss a range of shared issues including cybercrime, hostile state activity and social media and data privacy issues.

The Five Country Ministerial partnership continues and will be hosted in 2020

by New Zealand.

[Full list of new ministerial and government appointments: July 2019](#)

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