1. In accordance with paragraph 24 (e) of resolution 1970 (2011) of 26 February 2011, I have the honour to report to the Security Council on the work of the Committee established by the same resolution. I will report on developments since the beginning of my chairmanship, from 1 January 2021 to date, given that the Committee’s annual report for 2020, S/2020/1256, covers the period since my predecessor’s last briefing on 2 September 2020. During this time, the members of the Committee met twice in the “informal informals” format, via closed VTC, and conducted additional work using the silence procedure.

2. Allow me to begin by recalling resolution 2571 (2021) adopted by the Security Council on 16 April 2021, in which it extended the time-bound authorizations and measures aimed at preventing illicit exports of petroleum, including crude oil and refined petroleum products, from Libya, to 30 July 2022. The arms embargo, the travel ban and the asset freeze were not time-bound and continue to apply. The Council also extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts on Libya, to 15 August 2022. On 14 May, the Secretary-General appointed six individuals to serve on the Panel.

3. On 5 March, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on its final report submitted in accordance with resolution 2509 (2020). Since the report is publicly available as document S/2021/229, I will not summarize its findings. During the closed VTC, Committee members commended the work of the Panel. They expressed concern over the reported violations of the arms embargo, urging all Member States to respect the embargo. They also expressed concern over the continued presence of foreign forces and mercenaries in Libya, despite the signing of the ceasefire agreement on 23 October 2020, and called for their immediate withdrawal. They further underlined the Panel’s reporting on violations of international humanitarian law and human rights abuses in Libya, including the events in Tarhuna and Mizdah, and the plights of migrants in general. Committee members agreed on follow-up action in relation to the nine recommendations addressed to the Committee.

4. The publication of the Panel’s final report was preceded by leaks to the media of some of its contents, as well as the spread of misinformation. Committee members expressed their concern and dismay in that regard.

5. In terms of agreed follow-up action, the Committee dispatched letters to Libya on matters pertaining to migrants, asylum seekers and detainees, including the killings at Mizdah, and aspects of the assets freeze in relation to the Libyan Investment Authority. At a technical, working level, members of the Committee discussed, but agreed to take no further action, on two further aspects of the assets freeze highlighted by the Panel. The Committee also updated some identifying information on its sanctions list.

6. Mr. President, on 10 May, the Committee and invited participants heard a briefing by the Panel of Experts. Eighteen Member States, including Libya, and three regional organizations participated in the closed VTC. The purpose of this event was to continue to strengthen the dialogue on the effective implementation of the sanctions measures imposed by the Security Council in relation to Libya. In addition to participating in the meeting, the Syrian Arab Republic also conveyed a note verbale to the Committee dated 9 May 2021.

7. With respect to the arms embargo, the Committee received letters from Egypt and Greece, respectively, on different aspects of this measure. The Committee approved a request for exemption, under paragraph 9 (c) of resolution 1970 (2011), submitted by Malta. The Committee received five inspection reports on five vessels, and three reports on attempted inspections of three vessels, from EUNAVFOR Med Operation Irini.

8. As regards the assets freeze, no negative decision was taken by the Committee in relation to two exemption notifications, invoking paragraph 19(a) of resolution 1970 (2011), submitted by Switzerland and the United Kingdom. In connection with three additional notifications, invoking paragraphs 19(a) or 21 of resolution 1970 (2011), submitted by Belgium, Bahrain and Canada, the Committee determined that none met the scope of the provisions stipulated in the paragraph invoked. The Committee also received a letter from Liechtenstein in follow-up to a notification previously submitted under paragraph 19(a) of resolution 1970 (2011). The Committee received two letters from the Libyan Investment Authority on various aspects of the assets freeze.

9. Lastly, during the reporting period, the Committee received two implementation reports, from India and Mexico.

10. In conclusion, Mr. President, I would like to reiterate the Committee's commitment to contribute to promote peace and stability in Libya.