E3 Foreign Ministers' Statement: 20 September 2020

Press release

Statement by the United Kingdom, France and Germany on the JCPoA



Today marks 30 days since the US sought to initiate the 'snapback mechanism', which allows a participant to the JCPoA to seek the reimposition of the multilateral sanctions against Iran lifted in 2015 in accordance with resolution 2231, adopted by the UN Security Council.

France, Germany and the United Kingdom ("the E3") note that the US ceased to be a participant to the JCPoA following their withdrawal from the deal on 8 May, 2018.

Consequently, the purported notification under paragraph 11 of UNSCR 2231 (2015), received from the United States of America and circulated to the UN Security Council Members, is incapable of having legal effect.

It flows from this that any decisions and actions which would be taken based on this procedure or on its possible outcome would also be incapable of having any legal effect.

We remain guided by the objective of upholding the authority and integrity of the United Nations Security Council. The E3 remains committed to fully implementing UNSCR 2231 (2015) by which the JCPoA was endorsed in 2015.

We have worked tirelessly to preserve the nuclear agreement and remain committed to do so.