Mr. President,

This session marks one year since the mandate of the Fact-Finding Mission on Libya was prematurely ended by this Council. Last year’s resolution ignored the findings of the FFM and requires only that the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) provide technical assistance and capacity-building to Libyan authorities. The FFM’s final report concluded that "there are grounds to believe a wide array of war crimes and crimes against humanity have been committed by State security forces and armed militia groups."

Since then, with violations continuing unabated, and investigations failing to address the responsibilities of senior military commanders and political officials, justice has remained elusive. In September 2023, a catastrophic flooding in the city of Derna killed over 4,300 people, exposing again the devastating impact of Libya’s descent into chaos since the 2011 armed conflict.

Conflicting instructions by the Tripoli-based Government of National Unity and the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, inadequate warnings and the imposition of curfews on some of the worst affected areas by de facto authorities in eastern Libya contributed to the heavy death toll. The two rival authorities similarly mismanaged the response including by failing to investigate the responsibility of those in positions of power to protect people’s right to life, health and other human rights.

The resolution on Libya is due to come before this Council again at its next session. It will be a critical opportunity for the international community to support efforts to establish an international mechanism to investigate violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in Libya.

Thank you.