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|  | United Nations |  | S/2023/290 | | |
|  | Security Council | | |  | Distr.: General  25 April 2023  Original: English |

**Letter dated 19 April 2023 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), which was established on 28 January 2016 through an exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2016/88 and S/2016/89), and its mandate, which was most recently extended from 1 February 2023 to 31 January 2026 through another exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2023/70 and S/2023/71).

I should like to inform you of my intention to appoint Mr. Leonardo Santos Simão (Mozambique) as my Special Representative for West Africa and the Sahel and Head of UNOWAS. He will also serve as Chairman of the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission. He replaces Mr. Annadif Khatir Mahamat Saleh (Chad), who ended his assignment on 19 October 2022 and to whom I should like to express my gratitude for his dedication and effective leadership of UNOWAS and of the Mixed Commission.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

# (*Signed*) António **Guterres**