UNSC JOINTLY BACKS PEACE BID IN UKRAINE

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The Security Council requested the Secretary-General to brief the Security Council in due course after the adoption of the statement, which was initiated by Norway and Mexico.

At a separate Security Council event hosted by Russia, India stressed on the path of diplomacy and said dialogue should be the only viable option for peace in Ukraine. "We believe no solution can be arrived at by shedding blood and at the cost of innocent lives. We have emphasised right from the beginning of the conflict that the path of diplomacy and dialogue should be the only viable option," Counsellor in India's Permanent Mission to the UN Pratik Mathur said. He stressed that India strongly condemned the killing of civilians in Bucha and supported the call for an independent investigation. India also supports all efforts to alleviate the suffering of the people of Ukraine. "We believe that there will be no winning side in this conflict and while everyone impacted by it will continue to suffer, diplomacy will be a lasting casualty," he said.

At the UNSC, Mexico's Permanent Representative Juan Ramon de la Fuente Ramirez said the adoption of the Presidential Statement "shows that the Security Council is united in supporting the UN and the Secretary-General in finding a diplomatic solution." He added that both Mexico and Norway continue to call for an immediate cessation of hostilities.

In his briefing to the Council on Thursday, Mr. Guterres said the UN and the International Committee of the Red Cross are leading a humanitarian operation that is greatly complex both politically and in terms of security.

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