

Nobel Peace Prize

Initial proceedings

Decision of 12 October 2001 (4390th meeting): statement by the President

At its 4390th meeting, on 12 October 2001, the Council adopted its agenda the item entitled “Nobel Peace Prize”. At the meeting, the Council heard a statement by the Secretary-General.

The Secretary-General stated that the Norwegian Nobel Committee had honoured the Security Council, which had, under the Charter, the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security and that it had honoured all parts of the Organization, and the men and women who worked for the United Nations in the service of peace, wherever they might be. He stressed that in a world that was growing ever closer and more interconnected, and yet was still torn by brutal conflicts and cruel injustice, it was more important than ever that humanity travel that route, the route described by the Nobel Committee. He also stated that all of those who worked at the United Nations needed to feel proud, but also humble, because even more would be expected of them in the near future. He concluded by stating that the award was a tribute to those United Nations staff members who had made the supreme sacrifice in the service of humanity.

At the same meeting, the President (Ireland) made a statement on behalf of the Council.¹ In summary, by this statement, the Council:

Celebrated, together with the rest of the UN family, the award of the 2001 Nobel Peace Prize to the UN and to its Secretary-General, Kofi Annan; paid special tribute to all the men and women who work for the UN, whatever their tasks of duty, wherever they may be in the service of peace;

In warmly congratulating the Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, the Council reiterated its own strong support for his efforts in upholding the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and for his role in assuring to the Organization its full and rightful place in the world and in leading its search for new ways forward for all men and women in all countries to live their lives with dignity and peace.

¹ S/PRST/2001/28.